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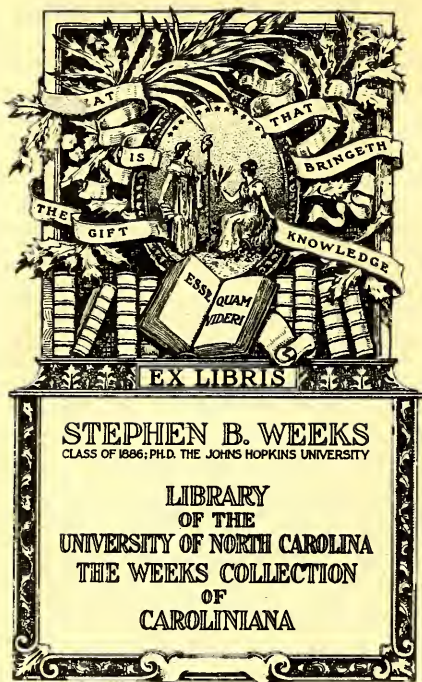
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# MASONIC CODE

OF

# NORTH CAROLINA,

CONTAINING

THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE JURISDICTION, WITH  
ANCIENT CONSTITUTIONS, PUBLIC CEREMONIES,  
FORMS, &c., &c.

REVISED EDITION, 1892.

PUBLISHED BY DIRECTION OF

THE GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA.



RALEIGH, N. C.:  
EDWARDS & BROUGHTON, PRINTERS AND BINDERS.  
1892.





## PREFACE.

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GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA, A. F. & A. M.

*Office of Grand Secretary,*

RALEIGH, March 2d, 1892.

This work is designed for the use, and to meet the wants and demands, of the Fraternity in this Grand Jurisdiction. It embraces the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge, Ancient Constitutions and Charges, all public ceremonies and necessary blank forms used by Lodges. Much care has been taken in its preparation with a view to make it entirely reliable. It is republished in pursuance of the direction of the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication, January, 1892.

DONALD W. BAIN,

*Grand Secretary.*





## INTRODUCTION.

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### Historical Synopsis.

The early history of Freemasonry in North Carolina is not as definitely and satisfactorily known as might be desired. Such information as is furnished by records regarded as authentic, is embodied in the following historical synopsis. The statements given respecting the reorganization of the Grand Lodge in 1787, are compiled from the original official records of the Grand Lodge.

There exists what is stated to be "a list of Regular Lodges according to their Seniority and Constitution," on the register of the Grand Lodge of England, published in 1762, which contains the following entry: "213. A Lodge at Wilmington, on Cape Fear River, in the Province of North Carolina, March, 1755."

It is probable that this was the first Lodge organized in the State, as the Grand Lodge in 1791, after a full investigation of the claims of all the Lodges to priority, in the award of numbers, gave this Lodge (St. Johns) the number 1, although the honor was contested by Royal White Hart Lodge, No. 2, of Halifax. It thus appears that St. Johns Lodge, No. 1, at Wilmington, has claim to antiquity, which the records sustain.

The "Ahiman Rezon and Masonic Ritual," published at Newbern, North Carolina, in 1805, contains an address by Judge Francois Xavier Martin, from which the following extract is taken:

"Masonry crossed the Atlantic with the first settlers of the British Colonies in America, and the Grand Masters of England appointed Provincial Grand Masters, who constituted regular Lodges in the New World. The Carolinas had no Provincial Grand Master until 1736, when the Earl of Loudon appointed John Hamerton to that dignity. From him a regular succession can be traced to Joseph Montfort, who was appointed by the Duke of Beaufort in 1769."

Judge Martin was an accurate historian, as well as a zealous Mason, and, no doubt, had good reason for stating that John Hamerton, of South Carolina, was appointed Provincial Grand Master for the Carolinas.

The date of appointment of Joseph Montfort, as stated by Judge Martin (1769), does not accord with the date of his commission, still preserved, which is 14th of January, 1771, but the mere date of a commission does not affect the statement of fact of appointment.

The records of St. John's Grand Lodge at Boston, Massachusetts, October 2d, 1767, contains this statement, which is published in the "Cyclopedia of Masonry" by Robert Macoy: "A dispensation was made out for the Right Worshipful Thomas Cooper, Master of Pitt

County Lodge, in North Carolina, constituting him Deputy Grand Master of that Province. And he was commissioned with power to congregate all the brethren there residing, or who should afterward reside in said Province, into one or more lodges as he should think fit, and in such place or places within the same as should most redound to the benefit of Masonry." The first Lodge established under this authority was, it is said, at Crown Point, in Pitt County.

On the 14th of January, 1771, the following authority was issued by the command of the Grand Master of England :

Beaufort, G. M.

SEAL.

TO ALL AND EVERY our Right Worshipful and Loving Brethren. WE, Henry Somerset, Duke of Beaufort, Marquis and Earl of Worcester, Earl of Glamorgan, Viscount Grosmont, Baron Herbert, Lord of Ragland, Chepston and Gower, Baron Beaufort of Caldeeol Castle, Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, Greeting :

KNOW YE THAT WE, of the great Trust and Confidence reposed in our Right Worshipful and well beloved Brother Joseph Montfort, Esquire, of Halifax, in the Province of North Carolina, in AMERICA, do hereby constitute and appoint him the said JOSEPH MONTFORT, Provincial Grand Master of and for AMERICA, with full power and Authority in due form to make Masons and Constitute and Regulate Lodges as Occasion may Require. And also to do and execute all and every such other acts and things appertaining to the said Office as usually have been and ought to be done and executed by other Provincial Grand Masters, he the said JOSEPH MONTFORT taking special care that all and every, the Members of every Lodge he shall constitute, have been regularly made Masons and that they do observe, perform and keep all and every the Rules, Orders and Regulations contained in the Book of Constitutions (except such as have been or may be repealed at any Quarterly Communication or other general meeting together) also with all such other Rules, Orders, Regulations and Instructions as shall from time to time be transmitted by us, or by the Honorable CHARLES DILLON our Deputy or by any of our Successors, Grand Masters or their Deputies for the time being. And we hereby will and require you our said Provincial Grand Master to cause four quarterly communications to be held yearly, one whereof to be upon or as near the feast day of Saint John the Baptist as conveniently may be, and that you promote on those and all other occasions whatever may be for the honour and Advantage of Masonry and the Benefit of the Grand Charity, and that you yearly send to us or our successor Grand Master an Account in Writing of the proceedings therein and also of what Lodges you constitute and when and where held with a list of the members thereof, and copies of all such Rules, Orders, Regulations as shall be made for the good Government of the same, with whatever else you shall do by virtue of these presents. And, that you at the same time remit to the Treasurer of the Society for the time being at London, three pounds, three shillings sterling for every Lodge you shall constitute, for the use of the Grand Charity and other necessary purposes.

Given at London under our hand and seal of Masonry this 14th day of January, A. L. 5771, A. D. 1771.

BY THE GRAND MASTER'S COMMAND

WITNESS :

CHAS. DILLON, D. G. M.

JAS. HESELTINE, G. S.

Under this authority, Joseph Montfort established Lodges in North Carolina. The present Royal White Hart Lodge, No. 2, at Halifax, derived its original warrant from this source. It was registered on the rolls of the Grand Lodge of England as No. 403, which number it appears to have sustained when the Grand Lodge of North Carolina was reorganized in 1787. This indicates, also, an existence under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England, after the Grand Lodge of North Carolina had ceased to exist, during and subsequent to the Revolutionary war.

From the best evidence existing, it seems that most of the Lodges which organized the Grand Lodge in 1771, derived their authority from the Grand Lodge of England, but other Lodges were, no doubt, established under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, if not under other authority also. The disputes which arose between them as to priority of number, after the reorganization of the Grand Lodge in 1787, indicates this.

It is evident that a Grand Lodge was organized in North Carolina in 1771, but the precise date of its organization is not known. It appears of record, however, that it was "first constituted A. D. 1771," and that it "convened occasionally at Newbern and Edenton, at which latter place the records were deposited previous to the Revolutionary war. During the contest the records were destroyed by the British army, and the meetings of the Grand Lodge suspended."

A convention was held in the town of Tarborough, commencing December 9th, 1787, for the purpose of reorganizing the Grand Lodge.

The following are its first day's proceedings :

"TARBOROUGH, December the 9th, A. L. 5787.

At a Convention of Delegates of the several Lodges in the State of North Carolina, for the purpose of electing a Grand Master and other Grand Officers for the same, the Brethren then assembled unanimously appointed

Brother John Mare in the Chair.

Brother Benjamin Manchester Secretary to the present Convention.

The following Lodges by their Delegates produced Credentials, viz :

*Unanimity*—Brothers John Mare, Stephen Cabarrus.

*St. John's, No. 2*—Brothers Manchester, Abner Neale.

*Royal Edwin, No. 4*—Brothers John Johnston, Andrew Oliver, Silas White Arnett.

*Royal White Hart, No. 403*—Brothers William Muir, — McDougall, John Geddy.

*Royal William, No. 8*—Brothers Hardy Murfree, Patrick Garvey, William Little.

*Union, at Fayetteville*—Brother James Porterfield.

*Blandford Bute*—Brothers Edward Jones, William Johnston.

*Old Cone*—Brother John Armstrong.



On motion, agreed, That the proceedings of this night be binding, and that the following rules be observed during the sittings of this Convention, to-wit : (Nine rules for the government of the Convention were adopted.)

The Convention then adjourned till to-morrow, 7 o'clock."

The Convention continued its sittings until the 13th of December.

On the 11th, Grand Officers were elected as follows :

Samuel Johnston	-----	<i>Grand Master.</i>
Richard Caswell	-----	<i>Deputy Grand Master.</i>
Richard Ellis	-----	<i>Senior Grand Warden.</i>
Michael Payne	-----	<i>Junior Grand Warden.</i>
Abner Neale	-----	<i>Grand Treasurer.</i>
James Glasgow	-----	<i>Grand Secretary.</i>

They were installed on the 12th.

At the Grand Lodge held in Fayetteville, December 9th, 1790, the following resolution was passed :

"*Resolved*, That the Secretary be directed to write to the different Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, requesting them to send delegates to Newbern, there to meet the Grand Lodge on the 24th day of June next, and to forward their claims for precedence and to receive their charters agreeable thereto, and at the same time to notice them, that this is the last time their claims to that effect can be received, but that those neglecting to take advantage of this notice must hereafter take their numbers as they apply."

Of the communication held at Newbern on the 25th day of June, 1791, the following record exists :

"Pursuant to a resolution of the Grand Lodge at Fayetteville on the 9th day of December last, the 'Lodge' proceeded to number the different Lodges agreeable to the claims of precedence from the different Lodges as follows, to-wit :

Saint John's, No. 1, Wilmington ; Royal White Hart, No. 2, Halifax ; Saint John's, No. 3, Newbern ; Saint John's, No. 4, Kinston ; Royal Edwin, No. 5, Windsor ; Royal William, No. 6, Winton ; Unanimity, No. 7, Edenton ; Phoenix, No. 8, Fayetteville ; Old Cone, No. 9, Salisbury ; Johnston Caswell, No. 10, Warrenton ; Caswell Brotherhood, No. 11, Caswell ; Independence, No. 12, Chatham ; Saint John's, No. 13, Duplin ; Rutherford Fellowship, No. 14, Rutherford ; Washington, No. 15, Beaufort county ; Saint Tammany, No. 16, Martin county ; American George, No. 17, Hertford county ; King Solomon, No. 18, Jones county.

"*Resolved*, That the several Lodges receive their charters as speedily as convenient, from the Grand Lodge, numbered according to the order which they appear on the records of this Grand Lodge taken this day.',

It is evident that all the Lodges herein mentioned existed at the time of the reorganization of the Grand Lodge, except numbers 11 to 18, both inclusive, which were chartered afterwards, as the first record of the formation of new Lodges after the reorganization, exists under date 17th of November, 1788, when petitions were presented to the Grand Lodge for "warrants" for a Lodge in Caswell county and one in Ruth-erford county (afterwards numbered 11 and 14 respectively, when charters were granted), which, on the next day, were ordered to be issued.

The succeeding history of the Grand Lodge and origin of its Subor-dinates is contained in the original records of the Grand Lodge, and is complete to the present date.

The foregoing pages embrace so much of the early history as the limited space of an introduction will permit.



# CONSTITUTION.

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## ARTICLE I.

### **Grand Lodge—Officers of and Representation in.**

SECTION 1. The Grand Lodge shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior and Grand Junior Wardens, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Senior and Grand Junior Deacons, and the Masters and Wardens, for the time being, of the several Lodges within this State, or Representative or Representatives, specially appointed for that purpose, who shall be considered as their proxy, or proxies, and the Past Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge—that is to say, Past Grand Masters, Past Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, Grand Treasurers and Grand Secretaries—and the said enumerated officers and persons shall be the only members and voters of the Grand Lodge. The Master and Wardens of every Lodge are the Representatives thereof in the Grand Lodge, or their proxy or proxies, or the Representative or Representatives constituted aforesaid.

*[Construction of Grand Lodge of Preceding Section—1877.]*

Past Grand Officers mentioned in Article I, Section 1, of the Constitution, are entitled to membership in the Grand Lodge so long as they comply with Article XVIII, Section 1, of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, and the other rules and regulations prescribed for the government of the Craft.

### **Proxies and Number of Votes Prescribed.**

SEC. 2. In all cases where special Representatives shall not be appointed by any Subordinate Lodge, and the Master and Wardens of any Lodge cannot, personally, attend the Grand Lodge, they shall have the privilege of constituting a proxy; and such proxy shall be a Master Mason, and a member of some Lodge under this jurisdiction; and he or they shall be entitled to the same number of votes as his or their constituent or constituents. (By-Laws, Art. IV.)

### **Grand Officers Ineligible as Representatives—Grand Master, &c., to be Past Masters.**

SEC. 3. No Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or Grand Warden shall, during his continuance in office, be Master or Warden to, or Representative of, a particular Lodge; and no brother shall be eligible to either of the said offices, who is not a Past Master.



**Who Eligible to Membership or Office in Grand Lodge.**

SEC. 4. None but Master Masors, members of Regular Lodges, shall be members of the Grand Lodge, or be eligible to any office or appointment therein.

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**ARTICLE II.****Grand Master—Election of.**

SECTION 1. A Grand Master shall be annually chosen, to-wit, at the Annual Communication; and no person shall fill the office more than three years successively, unless by a unanimous vote.

SEC. 2. In the election of Grand Master, a ballot at large shall be taken (every voter writing the name of the candidate he thinks best qualified), and the brother who has two-thirds of the votes present shall be declared Grand Master elect, and installed in due form, according to ancient usage.

**Deputy Grand Master—Election of.**

SEC. 3. A Deputy Grand Master shall be annually chosen in the same manner and by the same vote as required for the election of Grand Master.

**Grand Officers may be Installed by Proxy.**

SEC. 4. In cases of sickness, or necessary absence, the Grand Master or any other Grand officer, may be installed by proxy; but whoever represents them must have sustained the office to which such absent officer is to be installed, or such office as might have entitled him to fill the chair in the absence of the Grand Master.

**Grand Officers Appointed by Grand Master.**

SEC. 5. The Grand Master shall appoint and commission the Grand Lecturers, under the seal of the Grand Lodge; and he shall appoint and declare the Grand Chaplains, Grand Deacons, the Grand Steward, the Grand Marshal, the Grand Pursuivant, Grand Sword Bearer, and Grand Tiler, which appointments shall be entered on the minutes of the Grand Lodge; and in case any other office shall become vacant by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Grand Master, for the time, shall fill such vacancy by his nomination.

**Who Eligible to Preside in Grand Lodge.**

SEC. 6. The Grand Master shall, when present, indispensably fill the chair; in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master; in the absence of both, the Senior Grand Warden; in the absence of these, the Junior Grand

Warden ; and, in the case of the absence of all these officers, the eldest Grand Officer in the Lodge is to fill the chair. And that the Grand Lodge may always appear in due form, the presiding officer shall wear the jewel of the Grand Master, and all others the jewels of the offices they respectively represent.

#### **Powers and Prerogatives of Grand Master.**

SEC. 7. The Grand Master enjoys all the powers and prerogatives conferred by the Ancient Constitutions and usages of the Craft. He has power absolutely to prohibit the introduction of any matter conflicting with the spirit of Masonry, or with Grand Lodge regulations ; and his decision on all questions shall be final, unless reversed by a vote of two-thirds of the members present. He may convene any Lodge within his jurisdiction, preside therein (with his officers or otherwise), inspect their proceedings, and correct all irregularities, or he may appoint a suitable brother for that purpose. For any dereliction of duty, or other unmasonic conduct, he may suspend a brother, whatever may be his grade, or arrest the Charter of a Lodge, until the ensuing session of the Grand Lodge, before which he shall present all the circumstances connected with the case. He may, also, grant Dispensations on all proper occasions, and do all such other acts and deeds as are warranted or required of him by the regulations and ancient usages of the Fraternity.

#### **Obligation of Officers at Installation.**

SEC. 8. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens shall, severally, at the time of their installation, make the following declaration : "I solemnly promise, upon the honor of a Mason, that, in the office of——, I will, according to the best of my abilities, strictly comply with the laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge, and other ancient Masonic usages."

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### ARTICLE III.

#### **Grand Wardens—Election of.**

The Grand Wardens shall be chosen annually, by a majority of written votes, and must be Past Masters.

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### ARTICLE IV.

#### **Grand Treasurer—Election and Duties of.**

SECTION I. The Grand Treasurer shall be chosen annually, by a majority of written votes.

SEC. 2. He must be a brother of good worldly substance, and to him shall be committed the moneys belonging to the Grand Lodge. He shall always keep a fair record of his accounts and transactions, and the uses to which the moneys are appropriated; and shall lay the same, when required, before the Grand Lodge, and account for the moneys, as may be directed.

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#### ARTICLE V.

##### **Grand Secretary—Election and Duties of.**

SECTION 1. The Grand Secretary shall be chosen annually, by a majority of written votes.

SEC. 2. He must be a brother who can write a fair and legible hand, and shall keep accurate records of all the transactions of the Grand Lodge. He shall present all the votes and orders of the Grand Lodge after they are entered, to the Grand Master for his approbation and signature. He shall issue summonses, as the Grand Master may direct; and shall give a seasonable notice in at least one public newspaper of every stated meeting of the Grand Lodge; and he shall be rewarded for his services in such manner as the Grand Lodge may direct.

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#### ARTICLE VI.

##### **OTHER GRAND OFFICERS—DUTIES OF.**

##### **Grand Chaplains.**

SECTION 1. The Grand Chaplains, when called upon, are to perform all suitable clerical duties.

##### **Grand Marshal.**

SEC. 2. The Grand Marshal shall attend to the organization of the Grand Lodge, collect petitions and communications, introduce visitors, direct the formation of processions, and execute commands of the Grand Master.

##### **Grand Deacons.**

SEC. 3. The Grand Deacons shall occupy their proper stations, and each attend to his particular duty.

##### **Grand Sword-Bearer and Pursuivant.**

SEC. 4. The Grand Sword-Bearer and Pursuivant shall act as assistants to the Grand Marshal.

**Grand Steward and Tiler.**

SEC. 5. The Grand Steward and Tiler shall attend every call of the Grand Master, and be present at every Grand Communication ; for which services a suitable compensation shall be made. He shall attend yearly, in season, to have the Grand Lodge room properly prepared for the reception of the Grand Lodge.

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## ARTICLE VII.

**Grand Lecturers—Duties of.**

The Grand Lecturers shall qualify themselves for their duties, and attend the meetings of the Grand Lodge, and exemplify the work and lectures of the several degrees, when required. They shall visit the several Lodges when required—lecture and instruct them in work, and see that they are properly regulated and conducted. For their services they shall be suitably compensated in such manner as the Grand Lodge may provide. (See By-Laws, Art. I, Secs. 21 and 22.)

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## ARTICLE VIII.

**Grand Lodge—Communications of.**

SECTION 1. A Grand Lodge shall be held at least once in every year, and the Grand Master may call special meetings whenever he shall deem it advisable.

**Manner of Voting in.**

SEC. 2. In the adoption of this Constitution, and all amendments hereafter made, and in the election of officers, and all other matters in the Grand Lodge (when demanded), the votes shall be taken according to the rights of the several Lodges ; and the members of the Grand Lodge—that is to say, every Lodge present by its representation—shall be entitled to three votes, whether represented by one or more brethren ; and every member of the Grand Lodge otherwise entitled than by being a representative of a particular Lodge, shall have one vote ; provided this shall in nowise affect any rights of the Past Grand officers. In cases of a tie, the brother in the chair shall have the casting vote.

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## ARTICLE IX.

**Powers of the Grand Lodge.**

SECTION 1. The Grand Lodge shall be the supreme Masonic authority within the State of North Carolina, and shall claim and exercise all the original essential powers, privileges, rights and authority appertaining

to the ancient craft ; and shall, moreover, rank on an equality with all other regularly constituted Grand Lodges ; and be empowered to legislate upon all matters of Masonic government, and make all necessary regulations for its own government and that of its subordinates.

SEC. 2. The Grand Lodge shall have power by charter, under their seal, to constitute new Lodges, to establish a uniform mode of working in all the Lodges in this State, and superintend and regulate the general police of Masonry, according to the ancient usages and customs of Masons,—carefully regarding the old landmarks, which are, on no account, to be removed or defaced.

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#### ARTICLE X.

##### **New Lodges—How Established.**

No new charter shall be granted, but upon the petition of at least seven known and approved Master Masons ; nor shall a new warrant be issued to any number of Masons, residing within less than ten miles of the usual place of meeting of any regularly established Lodge, unless important benefits are to be derived therefrom ; and the petition shall contain the causes which render it expedient that such a charter should be granted, with the nomination of the Master and Wardens ; and the petition shall be approved by some regular constituted Lodge in the vicinity of the petitioners.

*[Construction of Article X by the Grand Master and Accepted by the Grand Lodge—1882.]*

By Article X of the Constitution, “no new charter shall be granted but upon the petition of at least seven known and approved Master Masons.” By Section 1, Article VI, of the By-Laws and Edicts of the Grand Lodge, “dispensations for new Lodges may be granted upon petition to the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, of not less than seven worthy Master Masons.” Seven worthy and approved Master Masons being the smallest number to whom the Grand Lodge can grant a charter, or the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master a dispensation for a new Lodge, it follows that, whenever the membership of any Lodge is reduced by any cause below seven, its legal existence thereupon ceases, and it cannot thenceforth do any work or transact any business whatever. Its property, furniture, jewels, funds, etc., become forfeited to the Grand Lodge, to be taken into possession and disposed of as directed in the case of suspension or demise of a Lodge.

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#### ARTICLE XI.

##### **Amendments—How Made.**

No amendment to this Constitution shall be adopted by the Grand Lodge, until the same, after being proposed in writing to the Grand Lodge, and thereby concurred with, shall be submitted to the consideration of all the individual Lodges, and adopted by at least two-thirds of all the said Lodges.





# BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND LODGE.

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## ARTICLE I.

### GRAND OFFICERS.

#### **Time for Election of.**

SECTION 1. The election of Grand Officers shall take place on the second day of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

#### **Certificate of Election.**

SEC. 2. The Grand Officers elected and appointed at each Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge shall be furnished with certificates of election or appointment, signed by the Grand Master and Wardens, and verified by the signature of the Grand Secretary, and the seal of the Grand Lodge.

#### *Grand Master.*

#### **To Provide Stationery and Seals.**

SEC. 3. The Grand Master is authorized to furnish such stationery as he may deem necessary for himself and the Grand Secretary, in their official correspondence; and also to procure seals to be used in conducting the correspondence of their respective offices.

#### **To Appoint Private Secretary.**

SEC. 4. The Grand Master may appoint a Private Secretary and fix his compensation, provided it shall not exceed one hundred dollars per annum.

#### **Expenses of.**

SEC. 5. The necessary expenses of the Grand Master incurred in the discharge of the duties of his office shall be allowed by the Grand Lodge.

#### *Grand Treasurer.*

#### **To Furnish Statement of Accounts.**

SEC. 6. It shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer, at each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, to file with the Grand Secretary a statement of the amount of moneys and other funds of the Grand Lodge in his hands, which statement the Grand Secretary shall file among his papers, and preserve for the use of the Grand Lodge.

**To Give Bond.**

SEC. 7. The Grand Treasurer shall give bond in the penal sum of one thousand dollars, faithfully to discharge his duties and account for all moneys and effects that may come into his hands belonging to the Grand Lodge.

**Payment of Grand Secretary's Salary.**

SEC. 8. The Grand Treasurer shall not be authorized to pay over to the Grand Secretary any appropriation which the Grand Lodge may have made, as compensation to him for discharging the duties of his office, until he shall have produced the certificate of the committee on his books that said duties were duly and truly performed.

**To Pay Expenses of Grand Officers.**

SEC. 9. The Grand Treasurer shall, at each Annual Communication, tender to the Grand Officers of the preceding Masonic year their expenses incurred in attending said Annual Communication.

**To Procure Portraits of Grand and Past Grand Masters.**

SEC. 10. The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary shall be a standing committee to procure the portraits of the Grand Masters of this State, beginning with the year 1866; and all living Past Grand Masters, whose portraits can be obtained, and the same, when procured, shall be suitably framed and hung up in the Grand Lodge Hall. Such sums of money shall be appropriated as may be necessary to carry into effect this section.

**Compensation of.**

SEC. 11. The compensation of the Grand Treasurer shall be one hundred and fifty dollars per annum, unless the receipts of the Grand Lodge shall be less than three thousand dollars per annum, when he shall receive five per cent. commissions.

*Grand Secretary.***Salary and Fees of.**

SEC. 12. The Grand Secretary shall receive an annual salary of seven hundred dollars, as compensation for his services; in addition to which he shall be entitled to one dollar for engrossing a dispensation or charter and affixing seal of the Grand Lodge to the same; one dollar for every certificate or document requiring seal, and the fees prescribed in Sections 1 and 2 of Article III of the By-Laws. Diplomas and papers required by the Grand Master are excepted.

**To Transmit Names, &c., of Grand Officers to Other Grand Lodges.**

SEC. 13. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary, after the choice of Grand Officers each year, to transmit to the Grand Lodges with which

this Grand Lodge is in correspondence the names and signatures of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, written in their own proper hands, and authenticated under his hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge.

#### **To Make Reports—Postage Allowed.**

SEC. 14. The Grand Secretary shall, at each Annual Communication, submit a report, in writing, of the transactions of his office during the preceding Masonic year. Postage expenses incurred in his official duties shall be paid by the Grand Treasurer, and allowed to him in the settlement of his accounts.

#### **To Provide Dispensations and Charters.**

SEC. 15. The Grand Secretary shall have blank Dispensations and Charters printed from time to time as they may be needed, and the cost of the same shall be paid by the Grand Treasurer.

#### **To Give Bond.**

SEC. 16. The Grand Secretary shall give a bond in the penal sum of five hundred dollars for the faithful discharge of his duties, and to account for all moneys and effects that may come into his hands belonging to the Grand Lodge.

#### **To Transmit Documents, &c., to Committee on Foreign Correspondence—Grand Lodge Library.**

SEC. 17. The Grand Secretary shall transmit to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, immediately upon their reception, all papers and documents for said committee. The committee shall return all such papers and documents to the Grand Secretary, after the report is completed, for the purpose of binding.

The Grand Secretary shall have bound, in good library binding, such documents as may be returned to him by the committee, to form a library for the Grand Lodge.

#### **To Secure Transportation for Representatives to the Grand Lodge.**

SEC. 18. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary, before the regular Annual Communication of this Grand Body, to make application to the Presidents of the different Railroad and Navigation Companies in this State to allow the officers and representatives to pass to and from this Grand Lodge for one fare.

#### **To Employ Assistant.**

SEC. 19. The Grand Secretary is authorized to employ the services of some suitable brother as his assistant during the Annual Communications, and the Grand Treasurer is directed, upon a proper warrant, to pay a sum not exceeding fifty dollars for such services.

**Grand Tiler—Compensation of.**

SEC. 20. The salary of the Grand Tiler shall be five dollars for each day and night, inclusive, of every Communication of the Grand Lodge.

*Grand Lecturers.***To Exemplify Work.**

SEC. 21. The Grand Lecturers shall exemplify the work when required by the Grand Master, at any Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. (See Article VII of the Constitution.)

**To Examine Records of Lodges, &c.**

SEC. 22. The Grand Lecturers shall examine the records and proceedings of the Lodges they may visit, and report in what manner they are kept and conducted, as well as whether due obedience is paid to the Constitution, laws and teachings of Masonry.

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**ARTICLE II.****REVENUES OF THE GRAND LODGE.****Annual Dues of Lodges.**

SECTION I. The dues from Subordinate Lodges to this Grand Lodge shall be sixty cents per capita, annually, for each member reported on the annual returns. Each Lodge shall transmit, with its returns, such annual dues or fees as the Grand Lodge may, at any time, assess.

[*Resolution of 1887.*]

All applications of Subordinate Lodges for the remission of dues shall be referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, and shall not be considered by the Grand Lodge until acted upon by said committee.

**Grand Secretary to Receive Moneys.**

SEC. 2. The Grand Secretary shall receive and receipt for all moneys due the Grand Lodge, handing the amount promptly to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor. Representatives to the Grand Lodge having any fees or dues for the Grand Lodge, shall pay them to the Grand Secretary.

**Moneys—How Paid from Grand Treasury.**

SEC. 3. No moneys shall be paid out of the Grand Treasury, unless authorized by the Grand Lodge and approved by the Grand Master.

## ARTICLE III.

## DIPLOMAS.

**Grand Secretary to Provide.**

SECTION 1. The Grand Secretary shall always keep on hand diplomas, printed on parchment and bound in pocket form, and on paper, with Grand Lodge certificate attached, for the use of the Subordinate Lodges, for which they shall pay, in addition to the cost of the blank diploma, fifty cents for each copy, one-half whereof shall be paid into the Grand Treasury; the other, the Grand Secretary shall receive for affixing seal, &c.

**Diplomas Furnished by Grand Lodge.**

SEC. 2. The price of a diploma granted by this Grand Lodge, or by its officers, shall be five dollars; and the same shall accrue to, and be a part of the perquisites of, the Grand Secretary.

## ARTICLE IV.

## ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS OF GRAND LODGE.

**When and Where Held.**

SECTION 1. The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge shall be held in the city of Wilmington on the first Tuesday in January, 1894, and annually thereafter on the second Tuesday of January in the city of Raleigh.

**Quorum.**

SEC. 2. The Representatives of three Subordinate Lodges, with such Grand Officers and members as may be in attendance, shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

**Delegate shall Represent Only Three Lodges.**

SEC. 3. A delegate shall not represent more than three Lodges at the same time in this Grand Lodge.

**Proxy Cannot Appoint Proxy.**

SEC. 4. A proxy shall not transfer his authority to another unless the power to do so shall be expressly given by his principal.

**Manner of Voting by Representatives—Number of Votes.**

SEC. 5. Each Lodge represented in the Grand Lodge, whether by officers, proxies, or special representatives, shall be entitled to three votes; and if two only represent a Lodge, and they shall differ, each shall cast one and a half vote.

**Credentials of Representatives.**

SEC. 6. Every representative to the Grand Lodge (whether elected by the Lodge or appointed the proxy of any officer), must be furnished with a certificate of election or appointment, under the seal of the Lodge, attested by the Secretary, the form to be furnished by the Grand Secretary, which shall state that he is a Master Mason; and all credentials must be handed to the Committee on Credentials. No person shall represent any Subordinate Lodge other than its constitutional officers, either as a delegate or proxy, unless he produces proper and written authority therefor.

**Committee on Credentials—Appointment and Report of.**

SEC. 7. At every Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge the Grand Master shall appoint a Committee on Credentials, whose duty it shall be to attend at the Grand Lodge Hall at least three hours before the time of assembling the Grand Lodge at the succeeding Annual Communication, to receive credentials of representatives and verify proxies.

**Standing Committees.**

SEC. 8. The Grand Master shall, as soon as he may deem it advisable, after the acceptance of the report of the Committee on Credentials, appoint the following Standing Committees, each to consist of a discretionary number of members, to-wit :

1st. *A Committee on Charters and Dispensations* ; to whom shall be referred all matters appertaining to the constituting or chartering of Lodges.

2d. *A Committee on Foreign Correspondence and Miscellaneous Subjects* ; to whom shall be referred, immediately after their receipt by the Grand Secretary, all foreign communications, and such miscellaneous matters, as may not otherwise be specially disposed of, and who shall be required to submit their report on the second day of the next succeeding Annual Communication ; and the chairman shall be paid such compensation for his services as may be agreed upon by the Grand Lodge.

3d. *A Committee on Returns of Subordinate Lodges* ; to whom shall be referred the Returns and Proceedings of the several Lodges, together with every other matter relating in any way to said Lodges, and which may not meet with any other disposition.

4th. *A Committee on Accounts and Claims* ; whose duty it shall be to examine the Grand Treasurer's accounts, and also all other accounts and claims in which the Grand Lodge may be interested, and report the existing condition of the Grand Treasury.

5th. *A Committee on Jurisprudence* ; to consist of five, to serve until the succeeding Annual Communication, to whom shall be submitted all questions of Masonic law not requiring the decisions of the Grand Master.



All amended By-Laws, and all questions of law and usage recommended by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the concurrence of the Grand Lodge, and which, if recommended by said committee, and concurred in by the Grand Lodge, shall be recognized as the law in this jurisdiction. This committee shall report to the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication next succeeding their appointment, on the second day of the session, all decisions made by them during the year, and all necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of these duties shall be paid by the Grand Lodge.

6th. *A Committee on Schools under the management of Subordinate Lodges.*

7th. *A Committee on Unfinished Business of Previous Annual Communication*; whose duty it shall be to examine the records of the Grand Lodge and see that its proceedings have been faithfully recorded.

8th. *A Committee on Propositions and Grievances*; to be appointed by the Grand Master before the close of each Annual Communication. This committee shall meet in the city of Raleigh at least one day before the assembling of the Grand Lodge; and all transcripts and other papers to be referred to said committee shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary thirty days previous to each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and any Lodge or individual failing to comply with this paragraph can only be heard by special permission of the Grand Lodge.

#### **Grand Master's Address—Committee on.**

SEC. 9. After the Grand Master shall have presented his annual address (which he is requested to lay before the Grand Lodge on Tuesday evening of the Annual Communication), he shall appoint a special committee of reference, who shall take the same in charge and make a report, specifying the appropriate committees to whom the several subjects therein noticed shall be referred.

#### **Grand Lodge—When and How Closed.**

SEC. 10. The Grand Lodge shall continue in session until all legitimate business coming before it shall have been disposed of, or until closed by the Grand Master.

#### **Leave of Absence—How Obtained.**

SEC. 11. No member shall leave the hall, or absent himself from the city, during the session of the Grand Lodge, without the permission of the Grand Master.

#### **Visitors—How Admitted.**

SEC. 12. No visitors shall be admitted into the Grand Lodge except petitioners and witnesses: *Provided*, That brethren properly entitled by their grade in Masonry may, by permission from the chair, be admitted; in neither of which cases shall they be permitted to vote.

**Refreshments Forbidden.**

SEC. 13. This Grand Lodge discountenances refreshments and forbids their use, and advises Subordinate Lodges to do the same.

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**ARTICLE V.****RULES REGULATING BUSINESS OF GRAND LODGE.****Order of Business.**

SECTION 1. The following shall be the order of business for the regulation of the Grand Lodge :

1. Reading the Proceedings of the previous day.
2. Reports of Standing Committees.
3. Reports of Special Committees.
4. Communications from the Grand Master or other Grand Officers.
5. Motions and Resolutions.
6. Unfinished Business.
7. Special Orders.

**Communications, &c., How Submitted.**

SEC. 2. All communications and documents must first be submitted to the inspection of the Grand Master, before they can properly come before the Grand Lodge.

**To be Reduced to Writing.**

SEC. 3. Every resolution or motion submitted to the Grand Lodge shall, if required, be reduced to writing and referred to an appropriate committee.

**Motions, &c., on Jurisprudence to Lie Over.**

SEC. 4. All motions or resolutions, touching Masonic jurisprudence, shall lie over one day before the same is acted on, unless notice thereof in writing be given one day before its introduction.

**Grand Master—How Addressed.**

SEC. 5. Every member, wishing to address the Grand Lodge, shall rise and respectfully address himself to the *Most Worshipful Grand Master* ; confining his remarks to the subject under consideration, and avoiding personalities and all gross expressions.

**Restrictions in Debate—Calls to Order.**

SEC. 6. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject without permission, nor shall he interrupt another when decorously addressing the Grand Lodge. All calls to order shall be addressed to the chair.

**Motion, When Debatable.**

SEC. 7. No motion shall be debatable until seconded and stated from the chair, when it shall be considered in possession of the Grand Lodge, and cannot be withdrawn, except by the mover, previous to decision or amendment. A question, after being put by the Grand Master, cannot be debated.

**Motion to Close, &c., Inadmissible.**

SEC. 8. No motion to close or call off is admissible, that responsibility resting alone with the Grand Master, who is obligated to allow the occurrence of nothing tending to interrupt or defeat the regular course of any business legitimately coming before the Grand Lodge.

**Parliamentary Rules—Previous Question.**

SEC. 9. On all other matters the rules which generally govern deliberative assemblies shall be observed, except as to the previous question.

**Reconsideration of Votes.**

SEC. 10. No vote of the Grand Lodge shall be reconsidered by a less number of members than were present at the passing of the same.

**Reports of Committees—How Made.**

SEC. 11. All Committees shall report their proceedings in writing—the first named brother on each to be Chairman; unless he waive his right to another.

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**ARTICLE VI.****ESTABLISHMENT OF LODGES.****Dispensations—Price of.**

SECTION 1. Dispensations for New Lodges may be granted upon petition to the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, of not less than seven worthy Master Masons, said petitioners to be known and recommended by a Lodge nearest their residence, accompanied by a fee of ten dollars (\$10), one dollar of which the Grand Secretary shall retain for his services.

**Petitioners for Dispensations to Obtain Dimits or Certificates.**

SEC. 2. The dimits of petitioners for a dispensation for a new Lodge shall accompany the petition. When a Lodge has forfeited its charter and sent its records to the Grand Secretary, the former members of said Lodge may, upon a petition setting forth the said facts, become members of the nearest Lodge, or petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge.

**Skill and Proficiency of Officers Certified.**

SEC. 3. All Subordinate Lodges, recommending petitions for dispensations for opening and holding new Lodges, shall, in addition to the recommendation required in Section 1 of this Article, plainly and explicitly certify that they have carefully examined the Master and Wardens, or at least the Master, of the proposed Lodge, and that they find them or him to be well skilled in the ritual and laws of Masonry. A Subordinate Lodge shall not recommend any petition for a new Lodge unless it can unqualifiedly certify to the skill and legal knowledge as herein required.

**Naming Lodges.**

SEC. 4. Masons who apply for a dispensation to form a Lodge, or for a Charter after having worked under dispensation, shall not name their Lodge after any living man, profane or Mason, to the end that Masonry may not be brought into reproach by perpetuating the name of an unworthy man.

**Powers not Possessed by Lodges U. D.**

SEC. 5. A Lodge working under Dispensation has not the power to affiliate members. It has not territorial or penal jurisdiction. It cannot try or discipline the Masons composing it, or those living nearer to it than to another Lodge. It cannot enact By-Laws. It has no powers except those specially delegated by the Grand Master's Dispensation, under which it is established.

**Dispensation to be Returned—Charter and Seal to be Issued.**

SEC. 6. Every Lodge working under a Dispensation shall return the same to the Grand Lodge, at the first Annual Communication after its date, together with a copy of its By-Laws, a transcript of its proceedings, a list of officers and members, and a fee of twenty dollars; also a sufficient sum to pay for a suitable seal, for which a charter and seal shall be issued, if so ordered by the Grand Lodge. The Secretary of every chartered Lodge shall attach the seal thereof to all communications issued by order of the Lodge. The Secretary shall not use the seal of the Lodge except by order of the Master, or the Lodge, or according to law.

**Chartered Lodges—How Numbered.**

SEC. 7. When Lodges are chartered, they shall be numbered according to the dates of their charters, and numbers rendered blank by the demise of Lodges shall not be filled.

**Chartered Lodges—How Constituted.**

SEC. 8. No chartered Lodge can proceed to work until the same shall have been constituted and the Master regularly installed, either by the Grand Master in person, or by a Past Master duly authorized.

**Duplicate Charter Retains Membership.**

SEC. 9. A Lodge receiving a duplicate charter to supply the loss of the original, retains its membership entire.

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**ARTICLE VII.****ANNUAL RETURNS OF LODGES TO GRAND LODGE.****What the Returns Shall Contain.**

The Secretary of every constituted Lodge under this jurisdiction shall make annual returns to the Grand Lodge, on a form to be furnished by the Grand Secretary, containing the following items: Officers; Members; Resident Masons not Members; Entered Apprentices; Fellow Crafts; those initiated, passed, raised, or admitted to membership; members who have died, withdrawn, or been excluded for non-payment of dues, and those who have been rejected, suspended, or reinstated. The location (county and town or place), of the Lodge, and the time of holding its Regular Communications, shall be stated. The returns shall give names and dates in all cases except as to those rejected (which are not to be published), with a summary in figures, and shall be certified by the Secretary, attested by the seal of the Lodge. They shall embrace the workings and statistics of the Lodge for the year ending on the 31st day of October, corresponding with the fiscal year of the Grand Lodge, and shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary on or before the 25th day of November. A Lodge shall not be entitled to representation in the Grand Lodge, except by special permission, until the returns are filed with, and all dues owing by the Lodge are fully paid to, the Grand Secretary.

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**ARTICLE VIII.****REMOVAL OF LODGES.****Proceedings in.**

No Lodge shall be removed without the Master's knowledge. No motion shall be made for removal in the Master's absence; and, if the motion be seconded, the Master shall order summons to every individual member, specifying the business, and appoint a day for hearing and determining the matter, at least ten days before it is to take place; and

the determination shall be made by the majority, provided the Master be one of that majority. But if he be of the minority against removing, the Lodge shall not be removed, unless the majority consists of full two-thirds of the members present. But, if the Master refuse to direct such summons, either of the Wardens may do it; and if the Master neglect to attend on the day fixed, the Wardens may preside, in determining the matter, in the manner prescribed; but they shall not enter upon any other cause than that particularly mentioned in the summons. If the Lodge be thus regularly ordered to be removed, the Master or Warden shall send notice thereof to the Grand Secretary for publishing the same at the next Annual Communication. No Lodge shall be deemed regularly removed until the removal thereof be approved by the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master for the time being; nor unless the laws relating to removals be strictly complied with; and, that the same may be duly ascertained, the books of every Lodge, intended to be removed, shall be inspected by the Grand Secretary before any removal takes place.

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## ARTICLE IX.

### EXTINCT LODGES.

#### **Forfeiture and Restoration of Charters.**

SECTION 1. Every Lodge, which shall cease to meet for twelve months, or neglect to make returns and forward dues to the Grand Lodge for two successive terms, shall forfeit its charter; which shall not be restored except on application by the Master, Wardens, or seven members, accompanied by satisfactory explanations, to be approved by the Grand Lodge, or by the Grand Master during recess.

#### **Suspension of Charters—Status of Members.**

SEC. 2. The suspension of the charter of a Lodge shall not work detriment to the Masonic character of its members. They can visit and enjoy the rights and privileges of regular members.

[This does not apply to the members of Lodges whose charters have been or may be forfeited or surrendered.]

#### **Forfeited Property—How Secured and Disposed of.**

SEC. 3. In case of the suspension or demise of any Lodge, its property and furniture of whatever kind, charter, jewels, and funds, shall become forfeited to the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Master shall have power, either personally or through an agent, to collect and take the same into possession, together with accounts due, and he shall be authorized, at his discretion, to sell, lease or rent real estate, or such other property, or lend to a Lodge any part thereof, until the ensuing Annual Commu-



nication ; or he may restore such property on the revival of the Lodge. The withholding or other disposal of such effects will subject the parties concerned to the severest penalties.

The Grand Master is further authorized to institute legal proceedings to recover such property and funds, and to employ counsel to conduct the same.

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## ARTICLE X.

### PETITIONS FOR DEGREES OR MEMBERSHIP.

#### Qualifications of Candidates.

SECTION 1. Every applicant for initiation must be free born ; and no individual, physically so deformed as to be disabled from honestly acquiring the means of subsistence, or who may be incapacitated for becoming a useful member, shall be initiated in any Lodge.

*[Construction of Section 1 by Grand Master, Approved by the Grand Lodge—1887.]*

A petitioner who has lost his right thumb and part of two of his fingers cannot be elected to receive the degrees.

#### Qualifications for Degrees.

SEC. 2. A candidate who has received the Entered Apprentice Degree, and afterwards loses an arm, cannot be advanced.

Either drunkenness or profanity is a sufficient cause for the rejection of a petition.

#### Petitions—How Disposed of—Conferring of Degrees Limited.

SEC. 3. Every petition for initiation or membership shall be submitted at a regular communication and referred to a committee of inquiry, and lie over at least one month, unless in cases of pressing emergency, which shall not be considered to exist unless the candidate is about to journey abroad ; neither shall more than one degree be conferred on the same day, except as above provided, unless due proficiency be attained in each advancing step, to be manifested in open Lodge. But no one of the degrees shall be conferred upon more than five candidates at the same communication. Every petition for the degrees or membership shall be submitted to the ballot, whether the report of the committee on the same is favorable or unfavorable.

#### What Constitutes Membership in a Lodge.

SEC. 4. If a candidate is raised by the Lodge in which his petition is acted on, his signing the By-Laws constitutes him a member. If the degrees are conferred by the request of another Lodge, he must sign the By-Laws of the Lodge making the request. By-Laws shall be signed by the hand of the brother receiving the degrees or elected to membership.

### **Twelve Months' Residence of Petitioners—Consent of Other Lodges in Certain Cases Required.**

SEC. 5. A Lodge shall not entertain the petition for the degrees of a person who has not resided twelve months within its jurisdiction immediately preceding the date of his petition. The application of a petitioner, whose residence is nearer to some other Lodge, shall not be entertained without the written consent of such Lodge.

### **Cases where Consent of Other Grand Jurisdictions is Required.**

SEC. 6. A Lodge shall not entertain the petition for the degrees of a person who has removed to this Grand Jurisdiction from another, within twelve months from the date of such removal, without the consent of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master of the Grand Jurisdiction from which he came.

### **Material Jurisdiction of a Lodge.**

SEC. 7. A Subordinate Lodge has exclusive jurisdiction over all persons or candidates residing nearer its place of meeting than any other; and should any Lodge receive a candidate, residing nearer some other Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, and confer the degrees upon him, the fees therefor are forfeited to the Lodge nearest to which the candidate resides. Two or more Lodges in a town or city have concurrent jurisdiction over material.

An air-line shall determine the territorial jurisdiction of Subordinate Lodges.

A Mason residing in this or another Grand Jurisdiction cannot be a member of a Lodge in both jurisdictions at the same time.

The jurisdiction of Lodges in adjoining towns is confined to the corporate limits of each.

An Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft of an extinct Lodge becomes the material of the nearest Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction.

A Lodge under dispensation and the nearest chartered Lodge shall have concurrent jurisdiction over candidates for degrees, as two chartered Lodges in the same town have.

An Entered Apprentice, who received that degree in another Grand Jurisdiction, his Lodge becoming dormant and he afterwards removing to this Grand Jurisdiction, cannot petition a Lodge in this jurisdiction for the remaining degrees without the consent of the Grand Lodge from which he hailed, or its Grand Master.

### **How By-Laws may be Suspended or Petition Withdrawn.**

SEC. 8. A Lodge cannot suspend its By-Laws, or allow a petition to be withdrawn after its presentation and reference, without first obtaining a

dispensation from the Grand Master, unless it should appear that the petitioner resided beyond the jurisdiction of the Lodge, or that he was physically disqualified.

#### **Qualifications for Membership.**

SEC. 9. None but Master Masons of good standing, against whom no other Lodge has claims, shall be admitted to membership in any Lodge.

#### **Dimits to Accompany Petition—Exceptional Cases.**

SEC. 10. A Lodge shall not receive any Mason as a member who does not produce a certificate of withdrawal from the Lodge to which he last belonged: *Provided*, That any Mason of good standing as a citizen, whose Lodge has become dormant, upon satisfying any Lodge, is entitled to become a member of such Lodge, by and with its consent, upon such terms as other Masons are admitted.

#### **Dual Membership Forbidden.**

SEC. 11. A Mason shall not be a member of more than one Lodge at the same time. A Lodge under dispensation shall be considered a Lodge within the meaning of this section.

#### *Balloting.*

#### **One Black Ball Rejects.**

SEC. 12. On balloting for a candidate, or for membership, one black ball shall reject without a question—except, that a second ballot may be demanded to be satisfied of no mistake, which ballot cannot be reconsidered. A ballot on a petition shall not be disclosed.

#### **Rejected Petitioners Excluded for One Year.**

SEC. 13. A petition once rejected shall not again be acted upon within one year. A candidate whose petition for the degrees has been rejected cannot petition another Lodge without the consent of the Lodge by which his petition was rejected.

When a petitioner has been rejected by one of the two Lodges in a town, and after twelve months applies to the other, and consent of the first Lodge is sought by the second to entertain the petition, it requires a unanimous vote to grant such permission to the second Lodge.

#### **Ballot may be Taken on Passing or Raising.**

SEC. 14. When a ballot is taken on a petition for the degrees, it is for the applicant to become a Master Mason. It is proper, however, if a member shall request it, to take a ballot on his application for passing or raising. (See last paragraph Sec. 3.)

## ARTICLE XI.

## FEES FOR DEGREES.

**Amount and Ratio of Fees.**

SECTION 1. The amount chargeable by the Subordinate Lodges for the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason shall not be less than fifteen dollars, and in no case shall the fees be remitted. It shall be discretionary with the Lodges in this jurisdiction to establish any ratio of fees for these several degrees, and to apportion a sum to each (exclusive of Tiler's fees that may be allowed), provided the amounts so apportioned shall not be less than that prescribed in this section.

**Fees Required in Advance.**

SEC. 2. All the Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge are required to receive all fees for conferring degrees invariably in advance, and shall, in no case, confer a degree unless the regular fee be so paid.

**Application of Fees by Lodges.**

SEC. 3. Every Lodge shall hold sacred all initiation fees for charitable or educational purposes, unless the necessity should exist requiring their use in providing suitable accommodations, or essential fixtures.

**No Charge for Degrees Conferred by Request.**

SEC. 4. No charge shall be made for degrees by a Lodge conferring the same at the request of another Lodge, the act being an extension of Masonic courtesy.

## ARTICLE XII.

## CONFERRING DEGREES, WORK, &amp;c.

**Lectures Appertaining to Degrees, &c.**

SECTION 1. In conferring the several degrees, the lectures appertaining thereto shall indispensably be delivered; and it shall be considered irregular, in the opening or closing of a Lodge, to waive any portion of the ceremonies.

**Uniformity of Work—Employment of Lecturer.**

SEC. 2. In order to insure a uniformity of work and lectures in all the Lodges, they shall suffer no other system to be introduced, but such as may be authorized by the Grand Lodge. And they shall pay to the Grand Lecturer, for his services, such sum as may be agreed upon between themselves.

**Title of Work.**

SEC. 3. The "Ancient Work of Masonry" (known as the Stevenson system), shall be taught and practiced as the work of this jurisdiction, and the Subordinate Lodges shall conform thereto: *Provided*, That a failure by a Subordinate Lodge to conform, in giving the work, in matters not essential, shall not be deemed a cause for the arrest or forfeiture of its charter.

**Solemnity in Conferring Degrees.**

SEC. 4. A becoming solemnity shall be observed during the introduction or advancement of a candidate, and no unsanctioned ceremony shall, under any consideration, be permitted.

**Ceremonies may be Arrested.**

SEC. 5. The ceremonies may be arrested at any time previous to the conferring of either degree, should a member of the Lodge object to initiation or advancement, and the member objecting shall not be required to assign his reasons therefor, or to prefer charges against the candidate.

**Use of Cypher Forbidden.**

SEC. 6. The making or using of any letter or cypher to the true Masonic work and mysteries is not authorized by the ancient customs of the Order, is contrary to its principles and teachings, and cannot, therefore, be sanctioned by this Grand Lodge. The true Masonic mysteries should be taught and handed down by oral teaching alone, as has been done from remote ages, and any departure from this principle is fraught with danger to the institution.

**Making Masons at Sight.**

SEC. 7. (1.) This Grand Lodge does not recognize any other mode of making Masons than the one sanctioned by the immemorial usage of the Craft, namely: "In a regular Lodge," after "previous notice and due enquiry into character."

(2.) This Grand Lodge does not recognize any inherent right or power, or prerogative in Grand Masters, to make Masons at sight or will, out of a regular Lodge; and regards the exercise of such power not only as arbitrary, but in violation of the plain and unmistakable provisions of the ancient charges and constitutions of Masonry.

**Past Master's Degree.**

SEC. 8. (1.) The degree of Past Master is not deemed as an essential to the Master in presiding over a Lodge.

(2.) A Mason who has taken this degree in a Royal Arch Chapter is not entitled to recognition in a Blue Lodge as a Past Master by virtue of said degree.

## ARTICLE XIII.

## TRIALS AND PUNISHMENTS.

**Masons may be Arraigned and Tried on Charges.**

SECTION 1. Every Lodge has the power to arraign its members or any Mason within its jurisdiction, on a charge of immoral or unmasonic conduct; and, after due investigation, may proceed to pass such lawful sentence as the aggravation of the case shall warrant. The grades of punishment are expulsion, indefinite suspension, definite suspension, and reprimand.

A Mason under sentence of suspension may be tried and expelled for a Masonic offense committed after his suspension.

*Offenses Punishable—Secs. 2 and 3.***Improper Influences to Secure Acquisitions to the Fraternity.**

SEC. 2. Any Mason so reckless of his duty as to lend his influence, or give a certificate or recommendation to enable an individual, in defiance of expressed disapprobation or known regulation of a Lodge, to thrust himself into their society, may be suspended or expelled by the injured Lodge, the proper usages in such cases to be observed.

**Profanity and Drunkenness.**

SEC. 3. Profanity and drunkenness are high Masonic crimes. Subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction are directed to vindicate the law in relation thereto, by dealing with the perpetrators of these violations of the moral law, and inflicting such punishment as the magnitude of the offense demands, if the offenders persist in these practices after due admonition and warning.

**Accused to be Notified—Trial *ex parte*—Vote to Expel or Suspend.**

SEC. 4. Whenever charges are preferred against a Mason, he shall be notified or cited through his nearest post-office or otherwise, at least ten days before the day of trial, and furnished with a copy, under the secretary's hand and seal, of the charges and specifications. Should he fail to attend, or if his address is unknown and notice cannot be served, the trial may proceed *ex parte*. Any evidence allowable in a court may be taken on honor, and every facility shall be allowed the accused for his defence. Testimony taken in a court of law is not competent, and cannot be read in evidence against one accused of Masonic crime in a trial by a Lodge, nor can the letters of a non-resident touching the case be so used unless by the consent of the accused and the Lodge. When the case is closed the sense of the Lodge shall be taken through the ballot-box. If guilty, the penalty shall be determined in like manner, requiring a vote of two-thirds present to expel and a majority to suspend. Conviction by a court of law does not authorize conviction by the Lodge.



**Effect of Expulsion by Chapter, Council, &c.**

SEC. 5. An expulsion from a Chapter, Council, Commandery, or Consistory, does not affect the standing of the member in any Blue Lodge.

**New Trials.**

SEC. 6. A new trial shall not be granted, neither shall a Lodge reconsider its proceedings, in a trial for the purpose of curing any irregularities. When the Grand Lodge shall refuse to confirm the proceedings in a case of suspension or expulsion by reason of any technical informality or irregularity (without reference to the merits of the case), the same shall be certified to the Lodge, and a new trial shall be granted.

**Notice of Suspension or Expulsion—Fee to be Paid—Grand Secretary to Issue Circular.**

SEC. 7. (1.) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of every Subordinate Lodge, upon the rendition of a sentence of suspension or expulsion by the Lodge (except in case of appeal in one month), to transmit to the Grand Secretary, under the seal of the Lodge, a notice of the same on a form to be provided by him. In such notice the cause of suspension or expulsion shall be stated.

(2.) A fee of one dollar shall accompany said notice to defray the expense of its publication.

(3.) The Grand Secretary shall keep an accurate list of all suspended or expelled Masons, in a book to be kept for that purpose.

(4.) The Grand Secretary shall issue quarterly a circular containing notices of suspensions and expulsions, and such other matters as the Grand Master may direct, in such form as may be conveniently bound or filed—two copies of which shall be sent to the Secretary of each Subordinate Lodge, which that officer shall carefully preserve for the inspection of the members.

(5.) The Grand Secretary shall report to each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge a list of the members suspended or expelled during the year, which shall be published in the proceedings.

**Appeals and Grievances—How Made and Disposed of.**

SEC. 8. Appeals to the Grand Lodge shall not be considered unless the same be in writing, stating the grounds thereof, accompanied with all necessary papers, proceedings and evidence to enable the formation of a correct decision. When the matter is thus presented, it shall be referred to a special committee. All grievances shall be disposed of in the same manner. In any extreme case, however, it will be competent for the Grand Lodge to deviate from the above rule.

### Minor Offenses—How Punishable—Disobeying Summons and Disclosing Lodge Transactions.

SEC. 9. No Lodge can, rightfully, suspend or expel a Mason for a disregard of any special regulations conditioned upon membership—such as non-payment of dues, failure to attend its communications, or transgressions of minor consideration. Nor can a Lodge impose a fine upon a member for non-attendance at its communications: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall apply to a wilful refusal to attend a communication of a Lodge when lawfully summoned. Disclosures to others than Masons, of important transactions within a Lodge, will be considered as exceptions, and may be dealt with according to the magnitude of the offense.

### Legal Summons.

SEC. 10. A written or printed notice, by order of the Master, signed by the Secretary, and attested by the seal of the Lodge, shall be considered a legal notice or summons.

### Members Disobeying Summons.

SEC. 11. The Master and Wardens of any Subordinate Lodge, that shall fail to take action against a member for disobedience of summons, are guilty of a grave Masonic offense, and failure in this matter shall be considered a sufficient cause for arrest of charter.

### Exclusion for Non-Payment of Dues—Effect of, &c.

SEC. 12. (1.) No member of a Lodge shall be excluded from membership for non-payment of dues until he shall have been notified, by a legal summons, to appear and show cause for such delinquency.

(2.) A failure to respond to said notification shall subject the offender to the penalties prescribed for a violation of a legal summons.

(3.) A member of a Lodge excluded for non-payment of dues, and afterwards reinstated upon payment, shall not be required to sign the By-Laws a second time.

*[Report of Committee on Jurisprudence, Adopted by Grand Lodge, 1888.]*

It is recommended to the Lodges that members who have heretofore been excluded for non-payment of dues be reinstated to membership upon the payment of such dues and on such terms as each Lodge may determine.

It is further recommended that Masons of extinct Lodges, who were excluded for non-payment of dues, be admitted to membership upon petition and ballot, as in other cases of petition for membership, accompanied by a certificate of the Grand Secretary of their status, as shall appear from the records in the custody of the Grand Secretary.

## ARTICLE XIV.

## RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF LODGES IN TRIALS.

**Charges—How Made—Accused to be Served with Copy.**

SECTION 1. The accusation must be made in writing, over the signature of a Master Mason, and handed to the Secretary to be read in open Lodge, and spread upon the minutes, after which the accused shall be served with an attested copy of the charges and specifications, together with a notice through the post-office or otherwise, at least ten days before the trial, to appear and answer; and should his place of residence be at a distance, or he require more time for defense, a reasonable time must be allowed. If the residence of the accused be unknown, or he fail to appear, or to show satisfactory cause for delay of proceedings, then, and in that case, the Lodge may proceed to examine the charges.

**Special Communications for Trial.**

SEC. 2. The Lodge for investigating charges must be specially notified and convened for that purpose, at which no visitors shall be admitted except as counsel or witnesses, and if any of these be not Master Masons, the Lodge must be called off during their presence. After the usual preliminary preparation for conducting the examination, if the accused be not a Master Mason, the Master's Lodge must be dispensed with, and a Lodge opened on the highest degree to which he has attained.

**Counsel—Evidence—How Taken.**

SEC. 3. The accused may have the benefit of counsel, and the witnesses shall testify on their honor. Hearsay evidence must be excluded. If testimony be taken out of the Lodge, the accused, when practicable, shall be duly notified of the time and place where it will be taken, that he may have an opportunity of being present. When the accused employs counsel, the accuser may, with the consent of the Lodge, employ counsel to prosecute.

**Examination—How Conducted.**

SEC. 4. No irrelevant questions or testimony shall be allowed in the examination of witnesses. The Master may conduct the examination on behalf of the Lodge, or it may appoint a committee for that purpose, and the questions to, as well as the answers by, the witnesses, must be carefully noted down, read, and, if necessary, amended in their presence, and then spread upon the minutes. The accused may be allowed to make a statement in relation to his case, and the Lodge may receive it as it thinks proper.

**Argument of Defense.**

SEC. 5. When the examination is closed, the accused shall be heard in defense, either in person or through counsel, after which all who are not members of the Lodge shall retire, and, if during the examination it shall have been called off, the Lodge must then be called on.

**Conviction and Punishment—How Determined.**

SEC. 6. The question, guilty or not guilty, shall be put to the Lodge upon each separate charge and specification, which a majority of the members present shall determine by ballot; and if the accused be found guilty of any one or more of the charges or specifications, then the penalty shall be determined in like manner, taking the question upon the highest penalty (expulsion), first—a vote of two-thirds of the members present being necessary to expel, and a majority to suspend. The charges or specifications upon which the accused may be found guilty, together with the sentence, must be spread upon the minutes.

**Proceedings Regulating Appeals.**

SEC. 7. The accused shall have the right to appeal to the Grand Lodge from the decision of a Subordinate Lodge, he having given notice within one month after the trial, to the Subordinate Lodge, of his intention to so appeal from its decision, and upon stating, in writing, the grounds of appeal, the Secretary of said Lodge, if required, shall furnish him with a copy of all the proceedings in his case.

A Mason, whose appeal from the sentence of a Lodge is sustained by the Grand Lodge, is acquitted and entitled to the privileges of his Lodge as though there had not been a trial.

In no case from a general verdict of not guilty can an accuser, or any Master Mason, take an appeal to the Grand Lodge. Such a verdict ends the case, and the accused cannot afterward, in any manner, be placed on trial upon the same charge.

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**ARTICLE XV.****RESTORATION OF SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED MASONS.****How Restorations may Take Place.**

SECTION 1. A Subordinate Lodge has power to restore, by a unanimous ballot, a suspended or an expelled Mason, upon his own petition, and such evidences of penitence and reformation as to it may appear satisfactory. Restoration by the Grand Lodge does not reinstate the brother to membership in his Lodge.

**Petitions for Restoration—How Made and Acted on.**

SEC. 2. A petition for restoration shall be in writing, shall be presented at a regular communication of the Lodge and lie over one month, when the members shall be summoned to attend.

**Restoration in Case of Definite Suspension.**

SEC. 3. A Mason who has been suspended for a definite period is, after the expiration of the time for which he was suspended, entitled to all the rights and privileges that he enjoyed before his suspension; and if he was a member of the Lodge by which he was suspended, a ballot is not necessary to restore him.

**Notice of Restoration—How Made.**

SEC. 4. In case of the restoration of any suspended or expelled Mason, the Secretary of the Lodge shall immediately certify to the Grand Secretary, under the seal of the Lodge, and in a form to be prescribed by the Grand Secretary, the fact and date of such restoration or readmission, with like fee as in case of suspension or expulsion, and the same shall be published in like manner by the Grand Secretary: *Provided*, That in such case the publication fee shall be paid by the member restored, as a condition precedent to such restoration or readmission.

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**ARTICLE XVI.****GOVERNMENT OF LODGES.****Communications—Powers—Quorum, &c.**

SECTION 1. All constituted Lodges under this jurisdiction have the right to convene as Free and Accepted Masons (not less than seven members being present), receive petitions, confer the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, admit members, choose officers annually, exact dues, establish a charity fund, and act upon all other matters of Masonic concernment not inconsistent with their charters, the laws of the Grand Lodge, or the ancient usages of the Craft.

**Communications—How Regulated.**

SEC. 2. Every Lodge shall hold at least one regular communication monthly, which can only be dispensed with, and then temporarily, on great emergency. A regular or special communication shall not be held on the Holy Sabbath for any business except to perform funeral or burial rites.

**Lodges—How Convened.**

SEC. 3. The Master has power to convene his Lodge ; or, in his absence, the Wardens by seniority. All communications as a Lodge, otherwise convened, together with the proceedings therein, unless sustained by dispensation, shall be considered clandestine, and subject all, so improperly concerned, to the severest penalties.

**Special Communications—Business Restricted.**

SEC. 4. No business can be transacted at a special communication other than that for which it was called, nor can such communication receive petitions, or ballot, except upon the advancement of candidates, or engage in any other business affecting the general interests of the Craft. The presence of the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master warrants exceptions.

**Business of Lodges Transacted in Master's Degree, &c.**

SEC. 5. No business shall be transacted in any other than a Master's Lodge except such as pertains especially to the work and lectures of the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft's degree, or the investigation of charges against an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft.

**Dispensation or Charter to be Present.**

SEC. 6. A Lodge cannot be opened unless the dispensation or charter be present, which is considered to be under the special charge of the Master.

**Decorum in Lodges.**

SEC. 7. The utmost decorum should be observed in every Lodge ; and no infringement of the established usages regarding respect and behavior should, under any pretence, be countenanced or allowed.

**Intoxicating Liquors Forbidden in Lodges.**

SEC. 8. The introduction, or use of, intoxicating liquors is prohibited to every Lodge, regardless of the occasion. (Sec. 13 of Art. IV.)

**By-Laws of Lodges.**

SEC. 9. Subordinate Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction shall be allowed the privilege of enacting such additional By-Laws to the Code adopted by this Grand Lodge as may be deemed proper by such Lodges : *Provided*, That such additions do not conflict with the ancient regulations, charges and constitutions of Masonry. All such By-Laws shall be submitted to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence for approval, and such amendments shall be inoperative until so approved.



**Clandestine Lodges.**

SEC. 10. This Grand Lodge does, and the Fraternity in North Carolina shall, regard all Lodges not constituted under the authority of this Grand Lodge, or of the Grand Lodges which are now, or may be, recognized by it, as clandestine, and the members thereof as spurious.

**Election and Installation of Officers in Lodges.**

SEC. 11. Subordinate Lodges shall hold their election for officers at the regular communication immediately preceding the 24th day of June, or the 27th day of December, in each year, and the officers elect shall be installed on the St. John's day succeeding the election, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

**Master Must Have Been a Warden.**

SEC. 12. A Lodge shall not elect to the office of Master a brother who has not been a Warden.

**Installation by Proxy.**

SEC. 13. An officer elect, if absent, may be installed by proxy.

**Installed Officer Cannot Resign.**

SEC. 14. An installed officer cannot resign his office before his successor is installed.

*[Construction of Section 14 by the Grand Master and Approved by the Grand Lodge—1886.]*

A Master of a chartered Lodge, during the year for which he is elected, whether he has changed his residence or not, cannot be appointed Master of a Lodge under dispensation.

A Deacon, being an installed officer, under the Code, cannot receive a dimit during the year for which he is appointed.

**Dues of Members of Lodges—Remission of.**

SEC. 15. A Lodge may designate in its By-Laws the amount to be paid by each member quarterly or annually, as dues, and it has the power to remit the same, or any part thereof, on account of poverty or distress.

**Reading and Approving the Minutes.**

SEC. 16. The minutes of a Lodge shall be read and approved (after amendment if necessary) before the Lodge is closed, and attested by the Secretary. The signature of the Master is not essential to the legality of the minutes.

**Legal Communications from Lodges—Jurisprudence, &c.**

SEC. 17. A communication from a Lodge shall bear the signature of the Secretary, attested by the seal. No other is legal. All communications to the Grand Master from Subordinate Lodges or members, concerning jurisprudence, shall be transmitted through the Secretary, under the seal of the Lodge.

**Regalia and Dress on Public Occasions.**

SEC. 18. The regalia worn in Lodges shall be such only as may be recognized therein. On public occasions the regalia and dress shall consist of white aprons, with or without device, white gloves, blue collars or ribbons with jewels of officers appended, and, whenever practicable, black suits and hats. Masons may appear in procession on such occasions in full regalia according to their Masonic rank.

**Dress at Funerals.**

SEC. 19. On funeral or burial occasions, Masons shall, when practicable, appear clothed in black, with white aprons and gloves, officers with their jewels, and all with black crape upon their left arm above the elbow. In addition a piece of blue ribbon, overlaid with a narrow black ribbon, may be worn on the lappel of the coat, according to individual taste.

**Burials.**

SEC. 20. It is the duty of the Master of every Lodge, on the decease of a member, or sojourning brother (who may not be under Masonic censure), to ascertain if Masonic honors would be agreeable, and take measures accordingly.

**Committee of Arbitration in Controversies—Appeal from.**

SEC. 21. Every Lodge shall appoint a committee of reference, to consist of at least three members, who shall patiently and impartially consider and pass upon all matters of controversy arising among the brethren, as may be submitted for their decision. Should either party be dissatisfied with the judgment, an appeal may be had to the Lodge.

**Visitation.**

SEC. 22. Any Mason in good standing in his Lodge may visit a Lodge upon application to the same, provided no member objects, but admission shall be denied him if objection is made.

**Lawful Information.**

SEC. 23. Lawful information is:

1st. A personal knowledge obtained from strict trial and due examination, or from sitting in a regular Lodge with a brother.

2d. The declaration of a personally known Master Mason that the brother is a Master Mason.

# ARTICLE XVII.

## MASTER OF A LODGE.

### Appeals from—Reversal of Decisions.

SECTION 1. A Lodge cannot reverse the decisions of its Master. Appeals from his decisions can only be taken by a majority of the Lodge to the Grand Lodge, or the Grand Master while the Grand Lodge is not in session.

### How Charges May be Preferred Against.

SEC. 2. A Lodge cannot try its Master. The Master of a Lodge can be tried only by the Grand Lodge, and in the following manner :

1. For offenses committed in his own jurisdiction, on charges preferred by three members of his Lodge.
2. For offenses against other Subordinate Jurisdictions, on charges preferred by one of the principal officers and three members of said Subordinate Jurisdiction.
3. For offenses in the Grand Lodge, on charges preferred by the Junior Grand Warden, or on the order of the Grand Master.

In any of these cases charges may be preferred against a Master before the Grand Lodge, as above provided, and the action of the Grand Lodge shall be final.

When the Grand Lodge is not in session, charges may be preferred in the first and second cases above specified, to the Grand Master, who, upon the presentation of the facts to him as above provided, through the official notice of the Secretary of the Lodge preferring the charges, shall have power to suspend the said Master until the next ensuing Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, when and where the charges may be regularly preferred and the case determined.

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# ARTICLE XVIII.

## NON-AFFILIATED MASONS.

### Excluded from Rights and Privileges.

SECTION 1. Every Mason ought to belong to some Lodge, and comply with its By-Laws and the general regulations in relation to the payment of dues and contributions to the charity fund ; and any Mason who fails to do so shall not be entitled to visit a Lodge while he remains non-affiliated, or to join in processions, or to relief, or Masonic assistance or burial : *Provided*, That nothing in the foregoing shall be so construed as to prohibit any Subordinate Lodge from permitting a non-affiliated Mason to visit the Lodge once.

**Names not to be Published.**

SEC. 2. The names of non-affiliated Masons shall not be published in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

**Dimits to be Granted on Application.**

SEC. 3. Any member of a Subordinate Lodge who may apply for a dimit shall be granted the same upon his producing the Secretary's receipt that he has paid all Lodge dues, if there be no charges against him: *Provided*, That any Mason who thus becomes non-affiliated by his action distinctly releases all members of Lodges from any and all Masonic ties between himself and them, retaining no Masonic right except that of petitioning a Lodge for membership. If, upon application for a dimit, a member of the Lodge shall announce his purpose to prefer charges against the applicant, and state the substance of the same, a reasonable time shall be given the accuser in which to prefer the charges before the said application is acted on.

**Legal Dimit.**

SEC. 4. A certificate of dimission is not legal unless it bears the seal of the Lodge by which it is issued.

**When Dimit Takes Effect.**

SEC. 5. A dimit shall take effect at the time the application for the same is acted upon by the Subordinate Lodge, and the time of its actual delivery by the Secretary has no bearing on its status.

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**ARTICLE XIX.****WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF MASTER MASONS.****Certificate to be Furnished.**

Upon the death of any Master Mason, a member in good standing of a Lodge under this jurisdiction, the Secretary of such Lodge shall furnish his widow or orphans a certificate, under the seal of the Lodge, of his membership, standing and death, without application or charge therefor.

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**ARTICLE XX.****PROCEEDINGS OF GRAND LODGE.****When Published and How Distributed.**

SECTION 1. The Grand Secretary shall have the proceedings of the Grand Lodge published and transmitted to the Subordinate Lodges within three months after the close of the Grand Lodge. The proceedings shall contain, in summary form, the number of affiliating and non-

affiliating Masons, the number of working Lodges in the State, and an abstract of such statistics of the workings of the Lodges as the returns may furnish. Three copies of the same shall be transmitted to each Lodge, one copy each to the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, and Past Grand Officers who are permanent members of the Grand Lodge, and three copies to each of the Grand Lodges with which this Grand Lodge is in correspondence. The Grand Secretary shall reserve at least three copies for the library of the Grand Lodge.

### **To Be Read in Lodges.**

SEC. 2. The Master of each Subordinate Lodge shall cause to be read before the Lodge the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, for the information of the brethren, and the Lodge shall preserve the same and have them bound.

### **Extra Copies—How Obtained.**

SEC. 3. Any Subordinate Lodge that shall voluntarily pay into the treasury of the Grand Lodge an amount of funds in addition to its annual dues, shall be entitled to receive from the Grand Secretary one copy of the proceedings, exceeding three, for every fifty cents so contributed, for the benefit of its members.

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## ARTICLE XXI.

### REPRESENTATION IN GRAND BODIES.

The Grand Master is authorized to appoint a representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of any other jurisdiction which may indicate a willingness to reciprocate the courtesy, such an interchange of fraternal courtesies being considered by this Grand Lodge as eminently calculated to maintain and promote reciprocal regard and harmonious feeling, prominent characteristics which should ever exist between sister Grand Bodies.

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## ARTICLE XXII.

### AMENDMENTS.

#### **How Made.**

No alteration or amendment of these By-Laws shall be made unless by a vote of two-thirds of all the members present at any Annual Communication, when the same shall be proposed.





# THE CHARGES OF A FREEMASON,

1 7 2 2.

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EXTRACTED FROM

THE ANCIENT RECORDS OF LODGES BEYOND SEA, AND OF  
THOSE IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND IRELAND,  
FOR THE USE OF THE LODGES IN LONDON.

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## I. Concerning God and Religion.

A Mason is obliged, by his tenure, to obey the moral law; and if he rightly understands the art, he will never be a stupid Atheist, nor an irreligious libertine. But though in ancient times Masons were charged in every country to be of the religion of that country or nation, whatever it was, yet it is now thought more expedient only to oblige them to that religion in which all men agree, leaving their particular opinions to themselves; that is, to be good men and true, or men of honour and honesty, by whatever denominations or persuasions they may be distinguished; whereby Masonry becomes the centre of union, and the means of conciliating true friendship among persons that must have remained at a perpetual distance.

## II. Of the Civil Magistrate, Supreme and Subordinate.

A Mason is a peaceable subject to the civil powers, wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against the peace and welfare of the nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior magistrates; for as Masonry hath been always injured by war, bloodshed, and confusion, so ancient kings and princes have been much disposed to encourage the Craftsmen, because of their peaceableness and loyalty, whereby they practically answered the cavils of their adversaries, and promoted the honour of the Fraternity, who ever flourished in times of peace. So that if a Brother should be a rebel against the State, he is not to be countenanced in his rebellion, however he may be pitied as an unhappy man; and, if convicted of no other crime, though the loyal Brotherhood must and ought to disown his rebellion, and give no umbrage or ground of political jealousy to the government for the time being, they cannot expel him from the Lodge, and his relation to it remains indefeasible.

### III. Of Lodges.

A Lodge is a place where Masons assemble and work ; hence that assembly, or duly organized society of Masons, is called a Lodge, and every Brother ought to belong to one, and to be subject to its By-Laws and the General Regulations. It is either particular or general, and will be best understood by attending it, and by the Regulations of the General or Grand Lodge hereunto annexed. In ancient times, no Master or Fellow could be absent from it, especially when warned to appear at it, without incurring a severe censure, until it appeared to the Master and Wardens that pure necessity hindered him.

The persons admitted members of a Lodge must be good and true men, free-born, and of mature and discreet age, no bondmen, no women, no immoral or scandalous men, but of good report.

### IV. Of Masters, Wardens, Fellows, and Apprentices.

All preferment among Masons is grounded upon real worth and personal merit only ; that so the lords may be well served, the Brethren not put to shame, nor the royal Craft despised ; therefore no Master or Warden is chosen by seniority, but for his merit. It is impossible to describe these things in writing, and every Brother must attend in his place, and learn them in a way peculiar to this Fraternity : only candidates may know, that no Master should take an Apprentice, unless he has sufficient employment for him, and unless he be a perfect youth, having no main or defect in his body, that may render him incapable of learning the art, of serving his Master's lord, and of being made a Brother, and then a Fellow Craft in due time, even after he has served such a term of years as the custom of the country directs ; and that he should be descended of honest parents ; that so, when otherwise qualified, he may arrive to the honour of being the Warden, and then the Master of the Lodge, the Grand Warden, and at length the Grand Master of all the Lodges, according to his merit.

No Brother can be a Warden until he has passed the part of a Fellow Craft ; nor a Master until he has acted as a Warden ; nor Grand Warden until he has been Master of a Lodge ; nor Grand Master unless he has been a Fellow Craft before his election, who is also to be nobly born, or a gentleman of the best fashion, or some eminent scholar, or some curious architect, or other artist, descended of honest parents, and who is of singular great merit in the opinion of the Lodges. And for the better, and easier, and more honourable discharge of his office, the Grand Master has a power to choose his own Deputy Grand Master, who must be then, or must have been formerly, the Master of a particular Lodge, and has the privilege of acting whatever the Grand Master, his principal, should act, unless the said principal be present, or interpose his authority by a letter.

These rulers and governors, supreme and subordinate, of the ancient Lodge, are to be obeyed in their respective stations by all the brethren, according to the old Charges and Regulations, with all humility, reverence, love, and alacrity.

#### V. Of the Management of the Craft in Working.

All Masons shall work honestly on working days, that they may live creditably on holy days; and the time appointed by the law of the land, or confirmed by custom, shall be observed.

The most expert of the Fellow Craftsmen shall be chosen or appointed the Master or overseer of the lord's work; who is to be called Master by those who work under him. The Craftsmen are to avoid all ill language, and to call each other by no disobliging name, but Brother or Fellow; and to behave themselves courteously within and without the Lodge.

The Master, knowing himself to be able of cunning, shall undertake the lord's work as reasonably as possible, and truly dispend his goods as if they were his own; nor to give more wages to any Brother or Apprentice than he really may deserve.

Both the Master and the Masons receiving their wages justly, shall be faithful to the lord, and honestly finish their work, whether task or journey; nor put the work to task that hath been accustomed to journey.

None shall discover envy at the prosperity of a Brother, nor supplant him, or put him out of his work, if he be capable to finish the same; for no man can finish another's work so much to the lord's profit, unless he be thoroughly acquainted with the designs and draughts of him that began it.

When a Fellow Craftsman is chosen Warden of the work under the Master, he shall be true both to Master and Fellows, shall carefully oversee the work in the Master's absence to the lord's profit; and his brethren shall obey him.

All Masons employed, shall meekly receive their wages without murmuring or mutiny, and not desert the Master until the work is finished.

A younger Brother shall be instructed in working, to prevent spoiling the materials for want of judgment, and for increasing and continuing of brotherly love.

All tools used in working shall be approved by the Grand Lodge.

No laborer shall be employed in the proper work of Masonry, nor shall Free Masons work with those that are not free, without an urgent necessity; nor shall they teach labourers and unaccepted Masons, as they should teach a Brother or Fellow.

## VI. Of Behaviour, viz. :

## I. IN THE LODGE WHILE CONSTITUTED.

You are not to hold private committees, or separate conversation, without leave from the Master, nor to talk of anything impertinent or unseemly, nor interrupt the Master or Wardens, or any Brother speaking to the Master; nor behave yourself ludicrously or jestingly while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn; nor use any unbecoming language upon any pretence whatsoever, but to pay due reverence to your Master, Wardens, and Fellows, and put them to worship.

If any complaint be brought, the Brother found guilty shall stand to the award and determination of the Lodge, who are the proper and competent judges of all such controversies (unless you carry it by appeal to the Grand Lodge), and to whom they ought to be referred, unless a lord's work be hindered the meanwhile, in which case a particular reference may be made; but you must never go to law about what concerneth Masonry, without an absolute necessity apparent to the Lodge.

## 2. BEHAVIOUR AFTER THE LODGE IS OVER, AND THE BRETHREN NOT GONE.

You may enjoy yourselves with innocent mirth, treating one another according to ability, but avoiding all excess, or forcing any Brother to eat or drink beyond his inclination, or hindering him from going when his occasions call him, or doing or saying anything offensive, or that may forbid an easy and free conversation; for that would blast our harmony, and defeat our laudable purposes. Therefore no private piques or quarrels must be brought within the door of the Lodge, far less any quarrels about religion, or nations, or state policy; we being only, as Masons, of the Catholic religion above mentioned; we are also of all nations, tongues, kindreds, and languages, and are resolved against all politics, as what never yet conduced to the welfare of the Lodge, nor ever will. This Charge has been always strictly enjoined and observed; but especially ever since the Reformation in Britain, or the dissent and secession of these nations from the communion of Rome.

## 3. BEHAVIOUR WHEN BRETHREN MEET WITHOUT STRANGERS, BUT NOT IN A LODGE FORMED.

You are to salute one another in a courteous manner, as you will be instructed, calling each other Brother, freely giving mutual instruction as shall be thought expedient, without being overseen or overheard, and without encroaching upon each other, or derogating from that respect which is due to any Brother, were he not a Mason; for though all Masons are as Brethren upon the same level, yet Masonry takes no honour from a man that he had before; nay, rather it adds to his honour, especially if he has deserved well of the Brotherhood, who must give honour to whom it is due, and avoid ill manners.

## 4. BEHAVIOUR IN PRESENCE OF STRANGERS NOT MASONS.

You shall be cautious in your words and carriage, that the most penetrating stranger shall not be able to discover or find out what is not proper to be intimated ; and sometimes you shall divert a discourse, and manage it prudently for the honour of the worshipful Fraternity.

## 5. BEHAVIOUR AT HOME, AND IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD.

You are to act as becomes a moral and wise man ; particularly, not to let your family, friends, and neighbours know the concerns of the Lodge, &c., but wisely to consult your own honour, and that of the ancient Brotherhood, for reasons not to be mentioned here. You must also consult your health, by not continuing together too late, or too long from home, after Lodge hours are past ; and by avoiding of gluttony or drunkenness, that your families be not neglected or injured, nor you disabled from working

## 6. BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS A STRANGE BROTHER.

You are cautiously to examine him, in such a method as prudence shall direct you, that you may not be imposed upon by an ignorant false pretender, whom you are to reject with contempt and derision, and beware of giving him any hints of knowledge.

But if you discover him to be a true and genuine Brother, you are to respect him accordingly ; and if he is in want, you must relieve him if you can, or else direct him how he may be relieved ; you must employ him some days, or else recommend him to be employed. But you are not charged to do beyond your ability, only to prefer a poor Brother, that is a good man and true, before any other poor people in the same circumstances.

Finally, all these charges you are to observe, and also those that shall be communicated to you in another way ; cultivating brotherly love, the foundation and cap stone, the cement and glory of this ancient Fraternity, avoiding all wrangling and quarreling, all slander and backbiting, nor permit others to slander any honest brother, but defending his character, and doing him all good offices, as far as is consistent with your honour and safety, and no farther. And if any of them do you injury, you must apply to your own or his Lodge ; and from thence you may appeal to the Grand Lodge at the quarterly communication, and from thence to the annual Grand Lodge, as has been the ancient laudable conduct of our forefathers in every nation ; never taking a legal course but when the case cannot be otherwise decided, and patiently listening to the honest and friendly advice of Master and Fellows, when they would prevent your going to law, with strangers, or would excite you to put a speedy period to all law suits, that so you may mind the affair of Masonry with more alacrity and success ; but with respect to Brothers

or Fellows at law, the Master and Brethren should kindly offer their mediation, which ought to be thankfully submitted to by the contending Brethren; and if that submission is impracticable, they must however carry on their process, or law-suit, without wrath and rancor (not in the common way), saying or doing nothing which may hinder brotherly love, and good offices to be renewed and continued; that all may see the benign influence of Masonry, as all true Masons have done from the beginning of the world, and will do to the end of time—Amen, so mote it be.



# GENERAL REGULATIONS.

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COMPILED FIRST BY MR. GEORGE PAYNE, ANNO 1720, WHEN HE WAS GRAND MASTER, AND APPROVED BY THE GRAND LODGE ON ST. JOHN BAPTIST'S DAY, ANNO 1721, AT STATIONER'S HALL, LONDON; WHEN THE MOST NOBLE PRINCE JOHN DUKE OF MONTAGU WAS UNANIMOUSLY CHOSEN OUR GRAND MASTER FOR THE YEAR ENSUING; WHO CHOSE JOHN BEAL, M. D., HIS DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: MR. JOSIAH VILLENEAU AND MR. THOMAS MORRIS, JUN., WERE CHOSEN BY THE LODGE GRAND WARDENS. AND NOW, BY COMMAND OF OUR SAID RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER MONTAGU, THE AUTHOR OF THIS BOOK HAS COMPARED THEM WITH, AND REDUCED THEM TO THE ANCIENT RECORDS AND IMMEMORIAL USAGES OF THE FRATERNITY, AND DIGESTED THEM INTO THIS NEW METHOD, WITH SEVERAL PROPER EXPLICATIONS, FOR THE USE OF THE LODGES IN AND ABOUT LONDON AND WESTMINSTER.

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## Authority of the Grand Master or Deputy.

I. The Grand Master, or his Deputy, hath authority and right, not only to be present in any true Lodge, but also to preside wherever he is, with the Master of the Lodge on his left hand, and to order his Grand Wardens to attend him, who are not to act in particular Lodges as Wardens, but in his presence, and at his command; because there the Grand Master may command the Wardens of that Lodge, or any other Brethren he pleaseth, to attend and act as his Wardens *pro tempore*.

## Powers of Master.

II. The Master of a particular Lodge has the right and authority of congregating the members of his Lodge into a chapter at pleasure, upon any emergency or occurrence, as well as to appoint the time and place of their usual forming; and in case of sickness, death, or necessary absence of the Master, the senior Warden shall act as Master *pro tempore*, if no brother is present who has been Master of that Lodge before; for in that case the absent Master's authority reverts to the last Master then present; though he cannot act until the said senior Warden has once congregated the Lodge, or in his absence the junior Warden.

## By-Laws, &c., How Kept.

III. The Master of each particular Lodge, or one of the Wardens, or some other Brother by his order, shall keep a book containing their by-laws, the names of their members, with a list of all the Lodges in town, and the usual times and places of their forming, and all their transactions that are proper to be written.

**Limit to Number Initiated at one Time—Age, &c.**

IV. No Lodge shall make more than five new Brethren at one time, nor any man under the age of twenty-five, who must be also his own master ; unless by a dispensation from the Grand Master or his Deputy.

**One Month's Notice to be Given.**

V. No man can be made or admitted a member of a particular Lodge without previous notice one month before given to the said Lodge, in order to make due inquiry into the reputation and capacity of the candidate ; unless by the dispensation aforesaid.

**Unanimous Consent Necessary—Right of Objection.**

VI. But no man can be entered a Brother in any particular Lodge, or admitted to be a member thereof, without the unanimous consent of all the members of that Lodge then present when the candidate is proposed, and their consent is formally asked by the Master ; and they are to signify their consent or dissent in their own prudent way, either virtually or in form, but with unanimity ; nor is this inherent privilege subject to a dispensation ; because the members of a particular Lodge are the best judges of it ; and if a fractious member should be imposed on them, it might spoil their harmony, or hinder their freedom ; or even break and disperse the Lodge, which ought to be avoided by all good and true Brethren.

**Charity Fund—Obedience to Laws, &c.**

VII. Every new Brother at his making is decently to clothe the Lodge, that is, all the Brethren present, and to deposit something for the relief of indigent and decayed Brethren, as the candidate shall think fit to bestow, over and above the small allowance stated by the by laws of that particular Lodge ; which charity shall be lodged with the Master or Wardens, or the Cashier, if the members think fit to choose one.

And the candidate shall also solemnly promise to submit to the Constitutions, the Charges, and Regulations, and to such other good usages as shall be intimated to them in time and place convenient.

**Establishment of new Lodges—Affiliation—Clandestine Lodges.**

VIII. No set or number of Brethren shall withdraw or separate themselves from the Lodge in which they were made Brethren, or were afterwards admitted members, unless the Lodge becomes too numerous ; nor even then, without a dispensation from the Grand Master or his Deputy ; and when they are thus separated, they must either immediately join themselves to such other Lodge as they shall like best, with the unanimous consent of that other Lodge to which they go (as above regulated) or else they must obtain the Grand Master's warrant to join in forming a new Lodge.

If any set or number of Masons shall take upon themselves to form a Lodge without the Grand Master's warrant, the regular Lodges are not to countenance them, nor own them as fair Brethren and duly formed, nor approve of their acts and deeds ; but must treat them as rebels, until they humble themselves, as the Grand Master shall in his prudence direct, and until he approve of them by his warrant, which must be signified to the other Lodges, as the custom is when a new Lodge is to be registered in the list of Lodges.

#### **Unmasonic Conduct—Punishment of.**

IX. But if any Brother so far misbehave himself as to render his Lodge uneasy, he shall be twice duly admonished by the Master or Wardens in a formed Lodge ; and if he will not refrain his imprudence, and obediently submit to the advice of the Brethren, and reform what gives them offence, he shall be dealt with according to the by-laws of that particular Lodge, or else in such a manner as the quarterly communication shall in their great prudence think fit ; for which a new regulation may be afterwards made.

#### **Right of Lodge to Instruct Officers and Representatives.**

X. The majority of every particular Lodge, when congregated, shall have the privilege of giving instructions to their Master and Wardens, before the assembling of the Grand Chapter, or Lodge, at the three quarterly communications hereafter mentioned, and of the annual Grand Lodge too ; because their Master and Wardens are their representatives, and are supposed to speak their mind.

#### **Uniformity of Usages to be Observed.**

XI. All particular Lodges are to observe the same usages as much as possible ; in order to which, and for cultivating a good understanding among Free Masons, some members out of every Lodge shall be deputed to visit the other Lodges as often as shall be thought convenient.

#### **Grand Lodge—How Formed and Regulated.**

XII. The Grand Lodge consists of, and is formed by the Masters and Wardens of all the regular particular Lodges upon record, with the Grand Master at their head, and his Deputy on his left hand, and the Grand Wardens in their proper places ; and must have a quarterly communication about Michaelmas, Christmas, and Lady-Day, in some convenient place, as the Grand Master shall appoint, where no Brother shall be present, who is not at that time a member thereof, without a dispensation ; and while he stays, he shall not be allowed to vote, nor even give his opinion, without leave of the Grand Lodge asked and given, or unless it be duly asked by the said Lodge.

All matters are to be determined in the Grand Lodge by a majority of votes, each member having one vote, and the Grand Master having two votes, unless the said Lodge leave any particular thing to the determination of the Grand Master, for the sake of expedition.

### **General Items of Business of Grand Lodge Indicated.**

XIII. At the said quarterly communication, all matters that concern the Fraternity in general, or particular Lodges, or single Brethren, are quietly, sedately, and maturely to be discoursed of and transacted: Apprentices must be admitted Masters and Fellow Craft only here, unless by a dispensation. Here also all differences, that cannot be made up and accommodated privately, nor by a particular Lodge, are to be seriously considered and decided: and if any Brother thinks himself aggrieved by the decision of this Board, he may appeal to the annual Grand Lodge next ensuing, and leave his appeal in writing, with the Grand Master, or his Deputy, or the Grand Wardens.

Here also the Master or the Wardens of each particular Lodge shall bring and produce a list of such members as have been made or even admitted in their particular Lodges since the last communication of the Grand Lodge: and there shall be a book kept by the Grand Master, or his Deputy, or rather by some Brother whom the Grand Lodge shall appoint for Secretary, wherein shall be recorded all the Lodges, with their usual times and places of forming, and the names of all the members of each Lodge; and all the affairs of the Grand Lodge that are proper to be written.

They shall also consider of the most prudent and effectual methods of collecting and disposing of what money shall be given to, or lodged with, them in charity, towards the relief only of any true Brother fallen into poverty or decay, but none else: but every particular Lodge shall dispose of their own charity for poor Brethren, according to their own by-laws, until it be agreed by all the Lodges (in a new regulation) to carry in the charity collected by them to the Grand Lodge, at the quarterly or annual communication, in order to make a common stock of it, for the more handsome relief of poor Brethren.

They shall also appoint a Treasurer, a Brother of good worldly substance, who shall be a member of the Grand Lodge by virtue of his office, and shall be always present, and have power to move to the Grand Lodge anything, especially what concerns his office. To him shall be committed all money raised for charity, or for any other use of the Grand Lodge, which he shall write down in a book, with the respective ends and uses for which the several sums are intended; and shall expend or disburse the same by such a certain order signed, as the Grand Lodge shall afterwards agree to in a new regulation: but he shall not vote in choosing a Grand Master or Wardens, though in every other transaction. As in

like manner the Secretary shall be a member of the Grand Lodge by virtue of his office, and vote in everything except in choosing a Grand Master or Warden.

The Treasurer and Secretary shall have each a clerk, who must be a Brother and Fellow Craft, but never must be a member of the Grand Lodge, nor speak without being allowed or desired.

The Grand Master, or his Deputy, shall always command the Treasurer and Secretary, with their clerks and books, in order to see how matters go on, and to know what is expedient to be done upon any emergent occasion.

Another Brother (who must be a Fellow Craft) should be appointed to look after the door of the Grand Lodge ; but shall be no member of it.

But these offices may be farther explained by a new regulation, when the necessity and expediency of them may more appear than at present to the Fraternity.

#### **Who to Preside in Grand Lodge.**

XIV. If at any Grand Lodge, stated or occasional, quarterly or annual, the Grand Master and his Deputy should be both absent, then the present Master of a Lodge, that has been the longest a Free Mason, shall take the Chair, and preside as Grand Master *pro tempore*; and shall be vested with all his power and honour for the time ; provided there is no Brother present that has been Grand Master formerly, or Deputy Grand Master ; for the last Grand Master present, or else the last Deputy present, should always of right take place in the absence of the present Grand Master and his Deputy.

#### **Supplying Stations.**

XV. In the Grand Lodge none can act as Wardens but the Grand Wardens themselves, if present ; and if absent, the Grand Master, or the person who presides in his place, shall order private Wardens to act as Grand Wardens *pro tempore*, whose places are to be supplied by two Fellow Craft of the same Lodge, called forth to act, or sent thither by the particular Master thereof ; or if by him omitted, then they shall be called by the Grand Master, that so the Grand Lodge may be always complete.

#### **Deputies—Duties of.**

XVI. The Grand Wardens, or any others, are first to advise with the Deputy about the affairs of the Lodge or of the Brethren, and not to apply to the Grand Master without the knowledge of the Deputy, unless he refuse his concurrence in any certain necessary affair ; in which case, or in case of any difference between the Deputy and the Grand Wardens, or other Brethren, both parties are to go by concert to the Grand Master, who can easily decide the controversy and make up the differences by virtue of his great authority.

The Grand Master should receive no intimation of business concerning Masonry, but from his Deputy first, except in such certain cases as his Worship can well judge of; for if the application to the Grand Master be irregular, he can easily order the Grand Wardens, or any other Brethren thus applying, to wait upon his Deputy, who is to prepare the business speedily, and to lay it orderly before his Worship.

#### Ineligibility of Grand Officers to Lodge Offices.

XVII. No Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, or whoever acts for them, or in their stead *pro tempore*, can at the same time be the Master or Warden of a particular Lodge; but as soon as any of them has honourably discharged his grand office, he returns to that post or station in his particular Lodge, from which he was called to officiate above.

#### Appointment of Deputies *pro tem*.

XVIII. If the Deputy Grand Master be sick, or necessarily absent, the Grand Master may choose any Fellow Craft he pleases to be his Deputy *pro tempore*: but he that is chosen Deputy at the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Wardens too, cannot be discharged without the cause fairly appearing to the majority of the Grand Lodge; and the Grand Master, if he is uneasy, may call a Grand Lodge on purpose to lay the cause before them, and to have their advice and concurrence: in which case, the majority of the Grand Lodge, if they cannot reconcile the Master and his Deputy or his Wardens, are to concur in allowing the Master to discharge his said Deputy or his said Wardens, and to choose another Deputy immediately; and the said Grand Lodge shall choose other Wardens in that case, that harmony and peace may be preserved.

#### Arraignment of Grand Master.

XIX. If the Grand Master should abuse his power, and render himself unworthy of the obedience and subjection of the Lodges, he shall be treated in a way and manner to be agreed upon in a new regulation; because hitherto the ancient Fraternity have had no occasion for it, their former Grand Masters having all behaved themselves worthy of that honourable office.

#### Visitations.

XX. The Grand Master, with his Deputy and Wardens, shall (at least once) go round and visit all the Lodges about town during his Mastership.

#### Death of Grand Master—Successor to.

XXI. If the Grand Master die during his Mastership, or by sickness, or by being beyond the sea, or any other way should be rendered inca-



pable of discharging his office, the Deputy, or in his absence, the senior Grand Warden, or in his absence the junior, or in his absence any three present Masters of Lodges, shall join to congregate the Grand Lodge immediately, to advise together upon that emergency, and to send two of their number to invite the last Grand Master to resume his office, which now in course reverts to him ; or if he refuse, then the next last, and so backward : but if no former Grand Master can be found, then the Deputy shall act as Principal until another is chosen ; or if there be no Deputy, then the oldest Master.

### Feast Days.

XXII. The Brethren of all the Lodges in and about London and Westminster, shall meet at an Annual Communication and Feast, in some convenient place, on St. John Baptist's Day, or else on St. John Evangelist's Day, as the Grand Lodge shall think fit by a new regulation, having of late years met on St. John Baptist's Day : *Provided*,

The majority of the Masters and Wardens, with the Grand Master, his Deputy and Wardens, agree at their quarterly communication, three months before, that there shall be a Feast, and a general communication of all the Brethren : for if either the Grand Master, or the majority of the particular Masters, are against it, it must be dropped for that time.

But whether there shall be a Feast for all the Brethren, or not, yet the Grand Lodge must meet in some convenient place annually on St. John's Day ; or if it be Sunday, then on the next day, in order to choose every year a new Grand Master, Deputy, and Wardens.

### Preparation for Feasts.

XXIII. If it be thought expedient, and the Grand Master, with the majority of the Masters and Wardens, agree to hold a Grand Feast, according to the ancient laudable customs of Masons, then the Grand Wardens shall have the care of preparing the tickets, sealed with the Grand Master's seal, of disposing of the tickets, of receiving the money for the tickets, of buying the materials of the Feast, of finding out a proper and convenient place to feast in ; and of every other thing that concerns the entertainment.

But that the work may not be too burdensome to the two Grand Wardens, and that all matters may be expeditiously and safely managed, the Grand Master, or his Deputy, shall have power to nominate and appoint a certain number of Stewards, as his Worship shall think fit, to act in concert with the two Grand Wardens ; all things relating to the Feast being decided amongst them by a majority of voices ; except the Grand Master or his Deputy interpose by a particular direction or appointment.

**Financial Provisions for Feasts.**

XXIV. The Wardens and Stewards shall, in due time, wait upon the Grand Master, or his Deputy, for directions and orders about the premises ; but if his Worship and his Deputy are sick, or necessarily absent, they shall call together the Masters and Wardens of Lodges to meet on purpose for their advice and orders ; or else they may take the matter wholly upon themselves, and do the best they can.

The Grand Wardens and the Stewards are to account for all the money they receive, or expend, to the Grand Lodge, after dinner, or when the Grand Lodge shall think fit to receive their accounts.

If the Grand Master pleases, he may in due time summon all the Masters and Wardens of Lodges to consult with them about ordering the Grand Feast, and about any emergency or accidental thing relating thereunto, that may require advice ; or else to take it upon himself altogether.

**Tilers at Feasts.**

XXV. The Masters of Lodges shall each appoint one experienced and discreet Fellow Craft of his Lodge, to compose a committee, consisting of one from every Lodge, who shall meet to receive, in a convenient apartment, every person that brings a ticket, and shall have power to discourse him, if they think fit, in order to admit him, or debar him, as they shall see cause : *Provided* they send no man away before they have acquainted all the Brethren within doors with the reasons thereof, to avoid mistakes : that so no true Brother may be debarred, nor a false Brother, or mere pretender, admitted. This committee must meet very early on St. John's Day, at the place, even before any persons come with tickets.

**Door-keepers at Feasts.**

XXVI. The Grand Master shall appoint two or more trusty Brethren to be porters, or door-keepers, who are also to be early at the place, for some good reasons ; and who are to be at the command of the committee.

**Services to Guests.**

XXVII. The Grand Wardens, or the Stewards, shall appoint beforehand such a number of Brethren to serve at table as they think fit and proper for that work ; and they may advise with the Masters and Wardens of Lodges about the most proper persons, if they please, or may take in such by their recommendation ; for none are to serve that day, but free and accepted Masons, that the communication may be free and harmonious.

**Appeals Made at Feasts—Decorum Observed.**

XXVIII. All the members of the Grand Lodge must be at the place long before dinner, with the Grand Master, or his Deputy, at their head, who shall retire, and form themselves. And this is done in order,

1. To receive any appeals duly lodged, as above regulated, that the appellant may be heard, and the affair may be amicably decided before dinner, if possible ; but if it cannot, it must be delayed till after the new Grand Master is elected ; and if it cannot be decided after dinner, it may be delayed, and referred to a particular committee, that shall quietly adjust it, and make report to the next quarterly communication, that brotherly love may be preserved.

2. To prevent any difference or disgust which may be feared to arise that day ; that no interruption may be given to the harmony and pleasure of the Grand Feast.

3. To consult about whatever concerns the decency and decorum of the grand assembly, and to prevent all indecency and ill manners, the assembly being promiscuous.

4. To receive and consider of any good motion, or any momentous and important affair, that shall be brought from the particular Lodges, by their representatives, the several Masters and Wardens.

**Grand Master—How and When Nominated.**

XXIX. After these things are discussed, the Grand Master and his Deputy, the Grand Wardens, or the Stewards, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Clerks, and every other person, shall withdraw, and leave the Masters and Wardens of the particular Lodges alone, in order to consult amicably about electing a new Grand Master, or continuing the present, if they have not done it the day before ; and if they are unanimous for continuing the present Grand Master, his Worship shall be called in, and humbly desired to do the Fraternity the honour of ruling them for the year ensuing : and after dinner it will be known whether he accepts it or not : for it should not be discovered but by the election itself.

**Consultation.**

XXX. Then the Masters and Wardens, and all the Brethren, may converse promiscuously, or as they please to sort together, until the dinner is coming in, when every Brother takes his seat at table.

**Grand Lodge Formed at Feast.**

XXXI. Some time after dinner the Grand Lodge is formed, not in retirement, but in the presence of all the Brethren, who yet are not members of it, and must not therefore speak until they are desired and allowed.

**Election and Salutation of Grand Master.**

XXXII. If the Grand Master of last year has consented with the Master and Wardens in private, before dinner, to continue for the year ensuing ; then one of the Grand Lodge, deputed for that purpose, shall represent to all the Brethren his Worship's good government, &c. And turning to him, shall, in the name of the Grand Lodge, humbly request him to do the Fraternity the great honour (if nobly born, if not) the great kindness of continuing to be their Grand Master for the year ensuing. And his Worship declaring his consent by a bow or a speech, as he pleases, the said deputed member of the Grand Lodge shall proclaim him Grand Master, and all the members of the Lodge shall salute him in due form. And all the Brethren shall for a few minutes have leave to declare their satisfaction, pleasure, and congratulation.

**Election to be Unanimous.**

XXXIII. But if either the Master and Wardens have not in private, this day before dinner, nor the day before, desired the last Grand Master to continue in the membership another year ; or if he, when desired, has not consented : then,

The last Grand Master shall nominate his successor for the year ensuing, who, if unanimously approved by the Grand Lodge, and if there present, shall be proclaimed, saluted, and congratulated the new Grand Master, as above hinted, and immediately installed by the last Grand Master, according to usage.

**Election by Ballot if Dissent is Expressed.**

XXXIV. But if the nomination is not unanimously approved, the new Grand Master shall be chosen immediately by ballot, every Master and Warden writing his man's name, and the last Grand Master writing his man's name too ; and the man, whose name the last Grand Master shall first take out, casually or by chance, shall be Grand Master for the year ensuing ; and if present, he shall be proclaimed, saluted, and congratulated, as above hinted, and forthwith installed by the last Grand Master, according to usage.

**Appointment of Other Grand Officers.**

XXXV. The last Grand Master thus continued, or the new Grand Master thus installed, shall next nominate and appoint his Deputy Grand Master, either the last or a new one, who shall be also declared, saluted and congratulated as above hinted.

The Grand Master shall also nominate the new Grand Wardens, and if unanimously approved by the Grand Lodge, shall be declared, saluted, and congratulated, as above hinted ; but if not, they shall be chosen by

ballot, in the same way as the Grand Master : as the Wardens of private Lodges are also to be chosen by ballot in each Lodge, if the members thereof do not agree to the Master's nomination.

#### **Grand Master Installed by Proxy.**

XXXVI. But if the Brother, whom the present Grand Master shall nominate for his successor, or whom the majority of the Grand Lodge shall happen to choose by ballot, is, by sickness or other necessary occasion, absent from the Grand Feast, he cannot be proclaimed the new Grand Master, unless the old Grand Master, or some of the Masters and Wardens of the Grand Lodge can vouch, upon the honour of a Brother, that the said person, so nominated or chosen, will readily accept of the said office ; in which case the old Grand Master shall act as proxy, and shall nominate the Deputy and Wardens in his name, and in his name also receive the usual honours, homage, and congratulation.

#### **Addresses.**

XXXVII. Then the Grand Master shall allow any Brother, Fellow Craft, or Apprentice to speak, directing his discourse to his Worship ; or to make any motion for the good of the Fraternity, which shall be either immediately considered and finished, or else referred to the consideration of the Grand Lodge at their next communication, stated or occasional. When that is over,

#### **Address by Grand Master or Deputy.**

XXXVIII. The Grand Master or his Deputy, or some Brother appointed by him, shall harangue all the brethren, and give them good advice : and lastly, after some other transactions, that cannot be written in any language, the Brethren may go away or stay longer, as they please.

#### **How Regulations may be Altered.**

XXXIX. Every annual Grand Lodge has an inherent power and authority to make new regulations, or to alter these, for the real benefit of this ancient Fraternity : *Provided always*, That the old land-marks be carefully preserved, and that such alterations and new regulations be proposed and agreed at the third quarterly communication preceding the annual Grand Feast ; and that they be offered also to the perusal of all the Brethren before dinner, in writing, even of the youngest Apprentice ; the approbation and consent of the majority of all the Brethren present being absolutely necessary to make the same binding and obligatory ; which must, after dinner, and after the new Grand Master is installed, be solemnly desired ; as it was desired and obtained for these regulations, when proposed by the Grand Lodge, to about one hundred and fifty Brethren, on St. John Baptist's Day, 1721.

## POSTSCRIPT.

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Here follows the manner of constituting a new Lodge, as practised by his Grace the DUKE OF WHARTON, according to the ancient usages of Masons.

A new Lodge, for avoiding many irregularities, should be solemnly constituted by the Grand Master, with his Deputy and Wardens; or in the Grand Master's absence, the Deputy shall act for his Worship, and shall choose some Master of a Lodge to assist him; or in case the Deputy is absent, the Grand Master shall call forth some Master of a Lodge to act as Deputy *pro tempore*.

The Candidates, or the new Master and Wardens, being yet among the Fellow Craft, the Grand Master shall ask his Deputy if he has examined them, and finds the Candidate Master well skilled in the noble science and the royal art, and duly instructed in our mysteries, &c.

And the Deputy answering in the affirmative, he shall (by the Grand Master's order) take the Candidate from among his Fellows, and present him to the Grand Master, saying: Right Worshipful Grand Master, the Brethren here desire to be formed into a new Lodge; and I present this my worthy Brother to be their Master, whom I know to be of good morals and great skill, true and trusty, and a lover of the whole Fraternity, wheresoever dispersed over the face of the earth.

Then the Grand Master, placing the Candidate on his left hand, having asked and obtained the unanimous consent of all the Brethren, shall say: I constitute and form these good Brethren into a new Lodge, and appoint you the Master of it, not doubting of your capacity and care to preserve the cement of the Lodge, &c., with some other expressions that are proper and usual on that occasion, but not proper to be written.

Upon this the Deputy shall rehearse the Charges of a Master, and the Grand Master shall ask the Candidate, saying: Do you submit to these Charges, as Masters have done in all ages? And the Candidate signifying his cordial submission thereunto, the Grand Master shall, by certain significant ceremonies and ancient usages, install him, and present him with the Constitution, the Lodge Book, and the instruments of his office, not all together, but one after another; and after each of them, the Grand Master, or his Deputy, shall rehearse the short and pithy Charge that is suitable to the thing presented.

After this, the members of this new Lodge, bowing all together to the Grand Master, shall return his Worship thanks, and immediately do their homage to their new Master, and signify their promise of subjection and obedience to him by the usual congratulation.



The Deputy and the Grand Wardens, and any other Brethren present, that are not members of this new Lodge, shall next congratulate the new Master ; and he shall return his becoming acknowledgements to the Grand Master first, and to the rest in their order.

Then the Grand Master desires the new Master to enter immediately upon the exercise of his office, in choosing his Wardens ; and the new Master calling forth two Fellow Craft, present them to the Grand Master for his approbation, and to the new Lodge for their consent. And that being granted,

The senior or junior Grand Warden, or some Brother for him, shall rehearse the Charges of Wardens ; and the Candidates being solemnly asked by the new Master, shall signify their submission thereunto.

Upon which the new Master, presenting them with the instruments of their office, shall, in due form, install them in their proper places ; and the Brethren of that new Lodge shall signify their obedience to the new Wardens by the usual congratulation.

And this Lodge being thus completely constituted, shall be registered in the Grand Master's Book, and by his order notified to the other Lodges.

## APPROBATION.

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Whereas, by the confusions occasioned in the Saxon, Danish, and Norman wars, the records of Masons have been much vitiated, the Free Masons of England twice thought it necessary to correct their Constitutions, Charges and Regulations; first in the reign of King Athelstan the Saxon, and long after in the reign of King Edward IV, the Norman: and whereas the old Constitutions in England have been much interpolated, mangled and miserably corrupted, not only with false spelling, but even with many false facts and gross errors in history and chronology, through length of time, and the ignorance of transcribers, in the dark illiterate ages, before the revival of geometry and ancient architecture, to the great offence of all the learned and judicious Brethren, whereby also the ignorant have been deceived.

And our late worthy Grand Master, his Grace the Duke of Montagu, having ordered the author to peruse, correct, and digest, into a new and better method, the History, Charges, and Regulations, of the ancient Fraternity; he has accordingly examined several copies from Italy and Scotland, and sundry parts of England, and from thence (though in many things erroneous), and from several other ancient records of Masons; he has drawn forth the above written new Constitutions, with the Charges and General Regulations. And the author having submitted the whole to the perusal and corrections of the late and present Deputy Grand Masters, and of other learned Brethren; and also of the Masters and Wardens of particular Lodges at their quarterly communication: he did regularly deliver them to the late Grand Master himself, the said Duke of Montagu, for his examination, correction, and approbation; and his Grace, by the advice of several Brethren, ordered the same to be handsomely printed for the use of the Lodges, though they were not quite ready for the press during his Mastership.

Therefore we, the present Grand Master of the Right Worshipful and most ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Wardens, the Masters and Wardens of particular Lodges (with the consent of the Brethren and Fellows in and about the cities of London and Westminster), having also perused this performance, do join our laudable predecessors in our solemn approbation thereof, as what we believe will fully answer the end proposed; all the valuable things of the old records being retained, the errors in history and chronology corrected, the false facts and the improper words omitted, and the whole digested in a new and better method.

And we ordain, that these be received in every particular Lodge under our cognizance, as the only Constitutions of Free and Accepted Masons amongst us, to be read at the making of new Brethren, or when the Master shall think fit; and which the new Brethren should peruse before they are made.

PHILIP DUKE OF WHARTON, G. M.

J. T. DESAGULIERS, L. L. D. and F. R. S.; D. G. M.

Joshua Timson,	}	Grand Wardens.
William Hawkins,		



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UNIFORM CODE OF BY-LAWS

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF

SUBORDINATE LODGES

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

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# BY-LAWS

OF

Lodge, No.

A. F. & A. M.,

NORTH CAROLINA.

## ARTICLE I.

### Charter and Communication.

SECTION 1. The Master shall have charge of the Charter, and it shall be in the Lodge, whenever opened.

SEC. 2. The regular Communications of this Lodge shall be held on the -----

SEC. 3. The Lodge shall hold no Communication on Sunday, except on Funeral occasions.

SEC. 4. The Master, or in his absence, the Wardens by seniority, may call special communications of the Lodge.

## ARTICLE II.

### Election and Appointment of Officers—Their Duties.

SECTION 1. The elective officers of this Lodge, to-wit: Master, Wardens, Treasurer, and Secretary, shall be chosen by ballot at the regular communication immediately preceding the anniversary of St. John the -----, the Master by two-thirds, and the remaining officers by a majority, of the members present.

*[Section 11, of Article 16, of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.]*

Subordinate Lodges shall hold their election for officers at the regular Communication immediately preceding the 24th day of June, or the 27th day of December, in each year, and the officers-elect shall be installed on the St. John's day succeeding the election, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

SEC. 2. All the officers shall be installed on St. John----- day, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

SEC. 3. The Master, immediately after his installation, shall appoint the Deacons, Marshal, Stewards and Tiler.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the Master, on the decease of a member or sojourning brother, entitled to such honors, to ascertain if Masonic honors would be agreeable, and to take measures accordingly.

SEC. 5. The Master shall read, or cause to be read, in open Lodge, as soon after they may be received as practicable, the annual proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 6. The Treasurer shall not pay out any moneys, except upon the warrant of the Worshipful Master, properly attested by the Secretary ; and shall furnish the Lodge with an annual statement of his receipts and disbursements.

SEC. 7. The Secretary shall transcribe, on the book of records, the minutes of each regular and special communication ; shall keep a book with the By-Laws neatly written therein for the signatures of members ; shall properly endorse and file all papers necessary to be preserved ; shall pay over to the Treasurer all moneys received by him, on or before the day of each regular communication, shall pay out no moneys in his hands by virtue of his office ; shall receive no due bill or other evidence of indebtedness ; and shall have his books in the Lodge, at each regular communication, with every entry properly made up to that date.

SEC. 8. It shall be the duty of the Tiler to keep the furniture clean, and everything in order for each communication of the Lodge. The implements, jewels, clothing, and other property of the Lodge, with the keys of the several apartments, wardrobes, etc., shall be considered in his custody, and he shall, for the time being, be held responsible for their safe-keeping ; and at the expiration of his term of office, shall deliver over the same to his successor ; he shall keep a visitor's register, in which he shall require each visitor to register his name and the Lodge of which he is a member. It shall also be his duty to deliver to the brethren, to whom they are addressed, all summonses issued by the Lodge, and to make due return of such direction, or return the same to the Secretary, with a statement in writing, setting forth the reasons for his failure to do so. His services shall be rewarded as the Lodge may, from time to time, determine.

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### ARTICLE III.

#### Committees.

SECTION I. There shall be four standing committees, to-wit : A Committee of Charity ; a Committee of Finance ; a Committee of Reference, and a Committee on the Orphan Asylum.

SEC. 2. The Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, shall be a Committee on Charity, who shall attend to all applications for relief, see that all true, worthy brothers, their widows and orphans, in sickness or distress, are aided and assisted, and report their action to the Lodge: *Provided*, when they may deem it necessary, they may draw from the funds of the Lodge to the amount of ----- dollars, without action of the Lodge.

[*Edict of Grand Lodge.*]

Assessments upon the members of a Lodge for Masonic charity is not unconstitutional.

SEC. 3. The Committee of Finance shall consist of three members, to be appointed by the Master, annually, at the regular Communication next succeeding the installation of officers, or as soon thereafter as practicable. This committee shall, from time to time, examine the books of the Secretary and Treasurer, and make a written report thereon, and on the financial affairs of the Lodge, at the end of each year, or oftener, if required, and shall carefully investigate every claim against the Lodge before the payment of the same shall be ordered by the Lodge.

SEC. 4. The Committee of Reference shall consist of three discreet and judicious members, to be appointed by the Master, who shall consider and decide all matters of controversy, arising at any time among the brethren, which may be referred to them. Either party dissatisfied with the decision of the committee, may appeal to the Lodge.

SEC. 5. The Committee on the Orphan Asylum shall supervise the collection of funds for that institution, and report in writing at every regular Communication, and the funds received shall be transmitted monthly to the Superintendent of the Asylum.

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## ARTICLE IV.

### Order of Business.

SECTION 1. No business shall be transacted in any other than a Master's Lodge, excepting only such as pertains especially to the work and lectures of the E. A., or F. C. degrees, or the investigation of charges against an E. A., or F. C.

SEC. 2. No business shall be transacted at a special communication, other than that for which it was called; nor shall such communication receive petitions, or ballot, except upon the advancement of candidates; nor engage in any other business affecting the general interests of the Craft.

SEC. 3. The order of business at a regular communication shall be,

1. Reading minutes of last regular, and all intervening communications.
2. Unfinished business.
3. Reports of committees on petitions for initiation and membership.
4. Balloting.
5. Reports of standing committees.
6. Reports of special committees.
7. Reception of petitions.
8. Communications.
9. Motions and resolutions.
10. Informal communications affecting the Craft.
11. Reading and approval of the minutes.

SEC. 4. The order of business may be changed, or temporarily dispensed with, by the Master, when pressing emergency may require it.

[The support of the Orphan Asylum shall be a regular order of business at each regular Communication.]

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## ARTICLE V.

### Fees.

SECTION 1. The fees for degrees conferred in this Lodge shall be ----- dollars, and shall invariably accompany the petition.

SEC. 2. The fees for membership shall be ----- dollars.

SEC. 3. The dues from members shall be ----- dollars per annum, to be paid quarterly.

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## ARTICLE VI.

### Petitions for Degrees.

SECTION 1. A petition for the degrees of masonry shall be in writing, signed by the applicant, and in the following form :

*To the Master, Wardens and Members of ----- Lodge,  
No. --, A. F. & A. M.*

The petition of -----, respectfully sheweth that he entertains a favorable opinion of your ancient institution, and desires to be made a member thereof. If this, his petition, be granted, he will yield a cheerful obedience to the usages and customs of Masonry. His age is ----- years; his vocation that of a -----, and his residence -----, Date, -----, (Signature,) -----.

Recommended by

-----  
-----

SEC. 2. A petition for the degrees of masonry or membership shall be recommended by two or more members of the Lodge, and shall be placed in the hands of the Secretary, with the lawful fee.

SEC. 3. Every petition for the degrees of masonry or membership shall be referred to a committee of three members, who shall diligently investigate the character, standing and qualifications of the applicant, and report to the Lodge at the first regular communication thereafter, if practicable ; and no petition shall otherwise be acted upon.

SEC. 4. On balloting for a candidate, one black ball shall reject without a question, except that a second ballot may be demanded to be satisfied of no mistake.

SEC. 5. The ballot shall be inspected by none, save the Master and Wardens, and no member shall make known what manner of ballot he cast.

SEC. 6. If the applicant be rejected, the fee shall be returned by the Secretary. If he be accepted, and negligently fail to offer himself for initiation within six months after his acceptance, or to make a satisfactory excuse for such neglect, the fee shall be forfeited to the charity fund, and the whole proceeding, in his case, shall be null and void.

SEC. 7. A petition once rejected, shall not again be acted upon within the space of one year.

SEC. 8. A Lodge shall not entertain the petition for the degrees of a person who has not resided twelve months within its jurisdiction immediately preceding the date of his petition. The application of a petitioner, whose residence is nearer to some other Lodge, shall not be entertained without the written consent of such Lodge.

SEC. 9. A Lodge shall not entertain the petition for the degrees of a person who has removed to this Grand Jurisdiction from another, within twelve months from the date of such removal, without the consent of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master of the Grand Jurisdiction from which he came.

SEC. 10. A petition shall not be withdrawn after its reference to a committee.

SEC. 11. Before a candidate shall be prepared for initiation he shall answer satisfactorily the following interrogatories :

1. Do you declare upon your honor, before these witnesses, that, unbiased by friends and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, you freely and voluntarily offer yourself a candidate for the mysteries of Masonry?

2. Do you further declare upon your honor, before these witnesses, that you are prompted to solicit the privileges of Masonry by a favorable opinion conceived of the Institution, a desire of knowledge, and a sincere wish of being serviceable to your fellow creatures?

3. Do you further declare upon your honor, before these witnesses, that you will cheerfully conform to all the ancient established usages and customs of the Fraternity?

4. Have you petitioned any other Lodge and been rejected by it?

## ARTICLE VII.

**Qualifications.**

Every applicant for the degrees of masonry must be free-born ; and no individual physically so deformed, as to be disabled from honestly acquiring the means of subsistence, or who may be incapacitated for becoming a useful member, shall be initiated.

## ARTICLE VIII.

**Application for Membership.**

SECTION 1. A petition for membership shall be in writing, signed by the applicant, in the following form:

*To the Master, Wardens and Brethren of ----- Lodge,  
No. --, A. F. & A. M.*

The petition of ----- respectfully sheweth that he was lately a member of ----- Lodge, No. ----, at -----, and he now prays to be admitted a member of your Lodge. His age is ---- years ; his vocation that of a -----, and his residence, -----.

(Signed,) -----

Recommended by

-----  
-----

SEC. 2. A petition for membership shall be accompanied by the applicant's dimit, and up to, and inclusive of, the ballot, shall be subject to the same rules as a petitioner for the degrees of Masonry. (See Article VI.)

## ARTICLE IX.

**Qualifications for Membership.**

SECTION 1. None but worthy Master Masons, against whom no other Lodge has claims, shall be admitted to membership.

SEC. 2. Any resident Master Mason of good standing as a citizen, whose Lodge has become dormant, may be admitted to membership, upon such terms in other respects as other masons.

SEC. 3. No mason shall be a member of the Lodge until he shall have subscribed the By-Laws.



## ARTICLE X.

**Dimits.**

SECTION 1. A petition for a dimit shall be in writing, signed by the applicant, and in the following form:

*To the Master, Wardens and Brethren of ----- Lodge, No. --.*

The undersigned respectfully prays to withdraw from the membership of your Lodge, and asks for a certificate to that effect. His motive for this request is -----.

SEC. 2. The foregoing petition shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Secretary of the payment of all dues by the applicant.

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## ARTICLE XI.

**Non-affiliated Masons.**

SECTION 1. A non-affiliated Mason shall not be permitted to visit the Lodge, or to join in procession; nor shall he be entitled to relief, or masonic assistance, or burial.

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## ARTICLE XII.

**Recommendation for Dispensation.**

SECTION 1. No petition for a dispensation for organizing a new Lodge, shall be recommended, until the proposed Master and Wardens (or at least the Master), have shown themselves, upon careful examination, in open Lodge, to be well skilled in the ritual and laws of Masonry.

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## ARTICLE XIII.

**Charity Fund and Relief.**

SECTION 1. Fees for initiation and advancement shall be held sacred for charitable or educational purposes, unless indispensable necessity should require their use for providing suitable accommodations, or necessary fixtures.

SEC. 2. Applications to the Lodge for charity, shall, in all cases, be made through a member of the Lodge, who shall previously qualify himself to furnish the Lodge with necessary information of the standing, character, condition, and circumstances of the applicant.

## ARTICLE XIV.

## Certificate of Membership, &amp;c.

SECTION I. Upon the death of any member of this Lodge it shall be the duty of the Secretary to furnish the widow or orphans of such deceased member a certificate, under the seal of the Lodge, of his membership, standing and death, without any application or charge therefor.

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## ARTICLE XV.

## Offenses.

SECTION I. Offenses occurring while the Lodge is at labor, shall be reported by the Senior Warden ; and offenses occurring while the Lodge is at refreshment, shall be reported by the Junior Warden: *Provided*, That these officers may exercise a sound discretion in reporting trivial offenses, which may be more prudently made the subject of private counsel and reprimand.

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## ARTICLE XVI.

## Miscellaneous.

1. The Master shall put all questions distinctly ; if a division be called for, he is to request those who voted in the affirmative to rise, and count them, then the negative, and shall declare the result.

2. All committees are to be appointed by the presiding officer, except as herein otherwise provided.

3. In case of a vote on any question, the majority of those present voting for or against, shall be necessary to a decision, except as otherwise provided ; in case of a tie the presiding officer shall decide.

4. When a member is about to speak, he shall rise from his seat and respectfully address the Worshipful Master.

5. If any member, in speaking or otherwise, shall transgress the rules of the Lodge, the Master, or any member, may call him to order ; he shall immediately take his seat, and the member calling him to order shall state the point of order. The Master shall decide the question of order without debate, except that the member called to order may be allowed to explain. If the decision be in favor of the member, he shall be at liberty to proceed.

6. When two or more members rise at once, the Master shall name the one entitled to the floor.

7. No visitor shall address the Lodge without leave being first obtained, or he be called on by the Master.

8. When the Master is stating a question or addressing the Lodge, or when a member is speaking, no person shall enter, go out of, or cross the room, nor be permitted to enter into private discourse.

9. No motion for reconsideration shall be made, except by a member voting with the majority, and at the same meeting when the question shall have been decided.

10. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the Master, and if in writing, read by the Secretary before debate.

11. Every motion shall be reduced to writing if a member desire it. In filling blanks, the largest sum or number, and the longest time, shall be first stated.

12. Any motion may be withdrawn by the mover, before decision and amendment.

13. No new motion or proposition shall be admitted while a question is pending before the Lodge.

14. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question, unless he obtain the permission of the Master.

15. Every member appointed on a committee must serve, unless, for reasons given, he be excused by the Master.

16. No member shall interrupt another, when speaking, except by permission of the Master, and the member then speaking.

17. No member shall engage in conversation, during the conferring of degrees, except it be necessary to facilitate the work.

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*[Section 9, of Article 16, of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.]*

Subordinate Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction shall be allowed the privilege of enacting such additional By-Laws to the Code adopted by this Grand Lodge as may be deemed proper by such Lodges: *Provided*, That such additions do not conflict with the ancient regulations, charges and constitutions of Masonry. All such additional By-Laws shall be submitted to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence for approval, and such additions or amendments shall be inoperative until so approved.

# CONSTITUTION AND DEDICATION OF A NEW LODGE.

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## CHAPTER FIRST.

### Constitution and Dedication of a New Lodge.

When a new Lodge receives a Dispensation, the Master named by the Grand Master assumes immediate control, designates the time for the convening of the Lodge, and appoints the subordinate officers. The officers of a Lodge under dispensation are not to be installed. (See Form No. 1 for Petition for a Dispensation.)

When a Lodge receives a Charter from the Grand Lodge, it is to be constituted according to the ceremonies prescribed in this Chapter. The ceremonies should be performed by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or a Past Master duly authorized by the Grand Master. When the Grand Master officiates the Lodge is constituted in *Ample Form*; the Deputy Grand Master in *Due Form*; but when another does so it is in *Form*. (See Form No. 2, for Petition for a Charter.)

### Ceremonies.

On the day and hour appointed, the Grand Master and his officers meet in a convenient room near to the Lodge to be constituted, and open in the third degree. After the officers in the new Lodge are examined, they send a messenger to the Grand Master, with the following message, viz :

#### MOST WORSHIPFUL :

The officers and brethren of ----- Lodge, who are now assembled at -----, have instructed me to inform you, that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge was pleased to grant them a Charter, authorizing them to form and open a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the town of -----: They are now desirous that their Lodge should be consecrated, and their officers installed in *due and ancient form*; for which purpose they are now met, and await the pleasure of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

When notice is given, the Grand Lodge walk in procession to the hall of the new Lodge. When the Grand Master enters, the grand honors are given by the new Lodge; the officers of which resign their seats to the grand officers, and take their several stations on the left.

The necessary cautions are given; and all, excepting PRESENT or PAST MASTERS of Lodges, are requested to retire until the Master of the new Lodge is inducted into the *Oriental Chair of Solomon*. He is then bound to the faithful performance of his trust, and invested with the characteristics of the chair.

Upon due notice, the Grand Marshal reconducts the brethren into the hall; and all take their places, except the members of the new Lodge, who form a procession on one side of the hall. As they advance, the Grand Master addresses them :

*"Brethren, Behold Your Master."*

They make the proper salutations as they pass.

A grand procession is then formed, in the following order, viz.:

	Tiler with a drawn Sword ;
	Two Stewards with white Rods ;
	Entered Apprentices ;
	Fellow Crafts ;
	Master Masons ;
	Stewards ;
Marshals.	Junior Deacons ;
	Senior Deacons ;
	Secretaries ;
	Treasurers ;
	Past Wardens ;
	Junior Wardens ;
	Senior Wardens ;
	Past Masters ;
	Mark Masters ;
	Royal Arch Masons ;
	Select Masters ;
	Knights Templar ;
	Masters of Lodges.

*The New Lodge.*

	Tiler with a drawn Sword ;
	Stewards with white Rods ;
	Entered Apprentices ;
	Fellow Crafts ;
	Master Masons ;
	Junior and Senior Deacons ;
	Secretary and Treasurer ;
Two Brethren,	carrying the flooring,* or Lodge ;
	Junior and Senior Wardens ;
The Holy Writings,	carried by the oldest or some
	suitable member, not in office ;
	The Worshipful Master ;
	Music.

\*Carpet.

*The Grand Lodge.*

Grand Tiler with drawn Sword ;  
 Grand Stewards with white Rods ;  
 A Brother carrying a Golden Vessel of Corn ; \*  
 Two Brethren, carrying the Silver Vessels, one of  
     Wine, the other of Oil ;  
     Grand Secretaries ;  
     Grand Treasurers ;  
 A burning Taper, borne by a Past Master ;  
 A Past Master bearing the Holy Writings, Square and Compasses,  
     supported by two Stewards with white Rods ;  
 Two burning Tapers, borne by two Past Masters ;  
     The Tuscan and Composite Orders ;  
     The Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian Orders ;  
     Past Grand Wardens ;  
     Past Deputy Grand Masters ;  
     Past Grand Masters ;  
     The Globes ;  
     Clergy and Orator ;  
 R. W. Junior and Senior Grand Wardens ;  
     R. W. Deputy Grand Master ;  
 The Master of the oldest Lodge, carrying the Book of Constitutions ;  
     The M. W. Grand Master ;  
 The Grand Deacons, on a line seven feet apart, on the right and left of  
     the Grand Master, with black Rods ;  
     Grand Sword Bearer, with a drawn Sword ;  
     Two Stewards with white Rods.

Marshals ;

The Marshals conduct the procession to the house where the services are to be performed. When the front of the procession arrives at the door they halt, open to the right and left, and face inward, while the Grand Master and others, in succession, pass through and enter the house.

A platform is to be erected and provided with seats for the accommodation of the Grand Officers.

The Holy Bible, Square and Compasses, and Book of Constitutions, are placed upon a table in front of the Grand Master : the flooring is then spread in the centre, upon the platform, covered with white satin or linen, and encompassed by the three tapers, and the vessels of *corn*, *wine* and *oil*.

\*Wheat.



## Services.

1. Music.
2. Prayer.
3. An oration.
4. Music.
5. The Grand Marshal forms the officers and members of the new Lodge in front of the Grand Master. The Deputy Grand Master addresses the Grand Master as follows :

## MOST WORSHIPFUL :

A number of Brethren, duly instructed in the mysteries of Masonry, having assembled together at stated periods, by virtue of a charter granted to them for that purpose, do now desire to be *constituted* into a *regular lodge*, agreeably to the ancient usages and customs of the fraternity.

The Charter and records are presented to the Grand Master, who examines the records, and, if found correct, proclaims :

The records appear to be correct, and are approved. Upon due deliberation, the Grand Lodge have granted the brethren of this new Lodge a charter, establishing and confirming them in the rights and privileges of a *regular constituted Lodge*; which the Grand Secretary will now read.

After the charter is read, the Grand Master says,

We shall now proceed, according to ancient usage, to constitute these brethren into a regular Lodge.

Whereupon the several officers of the new Lodge deliver up their jewels and badges to their Master, who presents them, with his own, to the Deputy Grand Master; and he to the Grand Master.

The Deputy Grand Master presents the Master-Elect to the Grand Master, saying,

## MOST WORSHIPFUL :

I present you Brother -----, whom the members of the Lodge, now to be constituted, have chosen for their Master.

The Grand Master asks them if they remain satisfied with their choice. [*They bow in token of assent.*]

The Master elect then presents, severally, his Wardens and other officers, naming them and their respective offices. The Grand Master asks the brethren if they remain satisfied with each and all of them. [*They bow as before.*]

The officers and members of the new Lodge form in front of the Grand Master; and the ceremony of *Consecration* commences with solemn music.

#### 6. Ceremony of Consecration.

The Grand Master, attended by the Grand Officers and the Grand Chaplain, form themselves in order around the Lodge—all devoutly kneeling.

7. A piece of solemn music is performed while the Lodge is uncovered.

After which, the first clause of the Consecration Prayer is repeated, which is as follows:

“Great Architect of the universe! Maker and Ruler of all worlds! deign, from thy celestial temple, from realms of light and glory, to bless us in all the purposes of our present assembly! We humbly invoke thee to give us at this, and at all times, *wisdom* in all our doings, *strength* of mind in all our difficulties, and the *beauty* of harmony in all our communications! Permit us, O thou Author of light and life, great Source of love and happiness, to erect this Lodge, and now solemnly to *consecrate* it to the honor of thy glory!

“Glory be to God on high.”

[Response by the brethren.]

“As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.”

The Deputy Grand Master will take the Golden Vessel with Corn, the Senior Grand Warden the Silver Vessel with Wine, and the Junior Grand Warden the Silver Vessel with Oil, and sprinkle the elements of consecration upon the Lodge.

[The Grand Chaplain then continues:]

“Grant, O Lord our God, that those who are now about to be invested with the government of this Lodge, may be endued with wisdom to instruct their brethren in all their duties. May *brotherly love*, *relief*, and *truth*, always prevail among the members of this Lodge: and may this bond of union continue to strengthen the Lodges throughout the world!

“Bless all our brethren, wherever dispersed; and grant speedy relief to all who are either oppressed or distressed.

“We affectionately commend to thee, all the members of thy whole family. May they increase in grace, in the knowledge of thee, and in love of each other.

“Finally: may we finish all our work here below, with thy approba-

tion ; and then have our transition from this earthly abode to thy heavenly temple above, there to enjoy light, glory and bliss, ineffable and eternal!

“Glory be to God on high.”

[Response by the brethren.]

“As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. So mote it be. Amen.”

8. A piece of solemn music is performed while the Lodge is covered.

9. The Grand Chaplain then dedicates the Lodge in the following terms :

“To the memory of the HOLY STS. JOHN, we dedicate this Lodge. May every brother revere their character, and imitate their virtues.

“Glory be to God on high.”

[Response.]

“As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. So mote it be. Amen.”

10. A piece of music is performed, while the brethren of the new Lodge advance in procession to salute the Grand Lodge, with their hands crossed upon their breasts, and bowing as they pass. They then take their places as they were.

11. The Grand Master then rises, and constitutes the new Lodge in the form following:

“In the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina, I now constitute and form you, my beloved brethren, into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. From henceforth I empower you to meet as a regular Lodge, constituted in conformity to the rites of our order, and the charges of our ancient and honorable fraternity ;—and may the Supreme Architect of the universe prosper, direct and counsel you, in all your doings.

[Response ]

“So mote it be. Amen.”

After the dedication of a new Lodge, the officers are to be installed, a brother having been appointed to act as Marshal or Conductor of Ceremonies, whose duty it is to present each of the officers according to rank, to the installing officer, in front of the Altar, for installation. The following ceremony is designed to be used on such occasions or those of installation after the annual election of officers.

### Ceremony of Installation.

The installing officer addresses the Master elect (or designated in the charter) as follows:

BROTHER:

Previous to your investiture, it is necessary that you should signify your assent to those ancient charges and regulations, which point out the duty of a Master of a Lodge.

I. You agree to be a good man and true, and strictly to obey the moral law.

II. You agree to be a peaceable subject, and cheerfully to conform to the laws of the country in which you reside.

III. You promise not to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against government; but patiently to submit to the decisions of the supreme legislature.

IV. You agree to pay a proper respect to the civil magistrates, to work diligently, live creditably, and act honorably by all men.

V. You agree to hold in veneration, the original rules and patrons of the order of masonry, and their regular successors, supreme and subordinate, according to their stations, and to submit to the awards and resolutions of your brethren, when convened, in every case consistent with the constitutions of the order.

VI. You agree to avoid private piques and quarrels, and to guard against intemperance and excess.

VII. You agree to be cautious in carriage and behavior, courteous to your brethren, and faithful to your Lodge.

VIII. You promise to respect genuine brethren, and to discountenance impostors, and all dissenters from the original plan of masonry.

IX. You agree to promote the general good of society, to cultivate the social virtues, and to propagate the knowledge of the art.

X. You promise to pay homage to the Grand Master for the time being, and to his officers when duly installed; and strictly to conform to every edict of the Grand Lodge, or general assembly of masons, that is not subversive of the principles and groundwork of masonry.

XI. You admit that it is not in the power of any men, or body of men, to make innovations in the body of masonry.

XII. You promise a regular attendance on the committees and communications of the Grand Lodge, on receiving proper notice, and to pay attention to all the duties of masonry, on convenient occasions.

XIII. You admit that no new Lodge shall be formed without permission of the Grand Lodge: and that no countenance be given to an irregular Lodge, or to any person clandestinely initiated therein, being contrary to the ancient charges of the order.

XIV. You admit that no person can be regularly made a mason in, or admitted a member of, any regular Lodge, without previous notice, and due inquiry into his character.

XV. You agree that no visitors shall be received into your Lodge, without due examination, and producing proper vouchers of their having been initiated into a regular Lodge.

These are the regulations of Free and Accepted Masons.

The presiding officer then addresses the Master as follows:

Do you submit to these charges, and promise to support these regulations, as Masters have done in all ages before you?

The Master is to answer, *I do*.

The presiding officer then addresses him:

BROTHER A. B.:

In consequence of your cheerful conformity to the charges and regulations of the order, you are now to be installed Master of this\* Lodge, in full confidence of your care, skill, and capacity to govern the same.

[The new Master is then regularly invested with the insignia of his office, and the furniture and implements of his Lodge.]

\*If this Lodge is installed for the first time, it is called "*This new Lodge*."

The various implements of the profession are emblematical of our conduct in life, and upon this occasion are carefully enumerated.

The *Holy Writings*, that great light in masonry, will guide you to all truth: it will direct your path to the temple of happiness, and point out to you the whole duty of man.

The *Square* teaches us to regulate our actions by rule and line, and harmonize our conduct by the principles of morality and virtue.

The *Compasses* teach us to limit our desires in every station; that, rising to eminence by merit, we may live respected, and die regretted.

The *Rule* directs that we should punctually observe our duty; press forward in the path of virtue, and, neither inclining to the right nor to the left, in all our actions have eternity in view.

The *Line* teaches the criterion of moral rectitude, to avoid dissimulation in conversation and action, and to direct our steps to the path which leads to a glorious immortality.

The *Book of Constitutions* you are to search at all times. Cause it to be read in your Lodge, that none may pretend ignorance of the excellent precepts it enjoins.

You will also receive in charge the *By-Laws* of your Lodge, which you are to see carefully and punctually executed.

### Charge upon the Installation of the Master of a Lodge.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER:

Being appointed Master of this Lodge, you cannot be insensible of the obligations which devolve on you, as their head; nor of your responsibility for the faithful discharge of the important duties annexed to your appointment.

The honor, reputation, and usefulness of your Lodge, will materially depend on the skill and assiduity with which you manage its concerns; while the happiness of its members will be generally promoted, in proportion to the zeal and ability with which you propagate the genuine principles of our institution.

For a pattern of imitation, consider the great luminary of nature, which, rising in the *East*, regularly diffuses light and lustre to all within its circle. In like manner, it is your province to spread and communicate light and instruction to the brethren of your Lodge. Forcibly impress upon them the dignity and high importance of masonry, and seriously admonish them never to disgrace it. Charge them to practice out of the Lodge, those duties which are taught in it; and by amiable, discreet, and virtuous conduct, to convince mankind of the goodness of the institution; so that, when any one is said to be a member of it, the world may know that he is one to whom the burthened heart may pour out its sorrows; to whom distress may prefer its suit; whose hand is guided by justice, and his heart expanded by benevolence. In short, by a diligent observance of the by-laws of your Lodge, the constitutions of masonry, and, above all, the *Holy Scriptures*, which are given as a rule and guide to your faith, you will be enabled to acquit yourself with honor and reputation, and lay up a *crown of rejoicing*, which shall continue when time shall be no more.

The subordinate officers are then severally invested by the presiding officer, who delivers each of them a short Charge, as follows, viz.:

### The Senior Warden.

BROTHER C. D.:

You are appointed Senior Warden of this Lodge, and are now invested with the ensign of your office.

The *Level* demonstrates that we are descended from the same stock, partake of the same nature, and share the same hope; and though distinctions among men are necessary to preserve subordination, yet no eminence of station should make us forget that we are brethren; for he who is placed on the lowest spoke of fortune's wheel, may be entitled to our regard; because a time will come, and the wisest knows not how soon, when all distinction, but that of goodness, shall cease; and death, the grand leveller of human greatness, reduce us to the same state.



Your regular attendance on our stated meetings, is essentially necessary. In the absence of the Master, you are to govern this Lodge; in his presence, you are to assist him in the government of it. I firmly rely on your knowledge of masonry, and attachment to the Lodge, for the faithful discharge of the duties of this important trust.—*Look well to the West!*

#### The Junior Warden.

BROTHER E. F.:

You are appointed Junior Warden of this Lodge, and are now invested with the badge of your office.

The *Plumb* admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations; to hold the scales of justice in equal poise; to observe the just medium between intemperance and pleasure: and to make our passions and prejudices coincide with the line of our duty.

To you is committed the superintendence of the craft, during the hours of refreshment: it is therefore indispensably necessary that you should not only be temperate and discreet, in the indulgence of your own inclinations, but carefully observe that none of the craft be suffered to convert the purposes of refreshment into intemperance and excess.

Your regular and punctual attendance is particularly requested; and I have no doubt that you will faithfully execute the duty which you owe to your present appointment.—*Look well to the South!*

#### The Treasurer.

BROTHER G. H.:

You are appointed Treasurer of this Lodge. It is your duty to receive all moneys from the hands of the Secretary, make due entries of the same, pay them out by order of the Worshipful Master and the consent of the Lodge.

I trust your regard for the fraternity will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your office.

#### The Secretary.

BROTHER J. K.:

You are appointed Secretary of this Lodge. It is your duty to observe all the proceedings of the Lodge; make a fair record of all things proper to be written; to receive all moneys due the Lodge, and pay them over to the Treasurer, and take his receipt for the same.

Your good inclination to Masonry and this Lodge, I hope, will induce you to discharge your office with fidelity; and by so doing, you will merit the esteem and applause of your brethren.

#### Senior and Junior Deacons.

BROTHERS L. M. AND N. O.:

You are appointed Deacons of this Lodge. To you, with such assistance as may be necessary, is entrusted the examination of visitors. It



is also your province to attend on the Master and Wardens, and to act as their proxies in the active duties of the Lodge ; such as in the reception of candidates into the different degrees of Masonry, and in the immediate practice of our rites. The Square and Compasses, as badges of your office, I trust to your care, not doubting your vigilance and attention.

#### **The Stewards.**

BROTHERS P. Q. AND R. S.:

You are appointed Stewards of this Lodge. The duties of your office are, to assist in the collection of dues and subscriptions ; to keep an account of the Lodge expenses ; to see that the tables are properly furnished at refreshment, and that every brother is suitably provided for ; and generally to assist the Deacons and other officers in performing their duties.

Your regular and early attendance will afford the best proof of your zeal and attachment to the Lodge.

#### **The Tiler.**

BROTHER :

You are appointed Tiler of this Lodge ; and I invest you with the implement of your office. As the sword is placed in the hands of the Tiler, to enable him effectually to guard against the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers, and suffer none to pass or repass but such as are duly qualified ; so it should morally serve as a constant admonition to us, to set a guard at the entrance of our thoughts ; to place a watch at the door of our lips ; to post a sentinel at the avenue of our actions : thereby excluding every unqualified and unworthy thought, word, and deed ; and preserving consciences void of offence towards God and towards man.

Your early and punctual attendance will afford the best proof of your zeal for the institution.

#### **Charge to the Brethren of the Lodge.**

Such is the nature of our Constitution, that as some must of necessity rule and teach, so others must of course learn to submit and obey. Humility in both is an essential duty. The officers who are appointed to govern your Lodge, are sufficiently conversant with the rules of propriety, and the laws of the institution, to avoid exceeding the powers with which they are entrusted ; and you are of too generous dispositions to envy their preferment. I therefore trust that you will have but one aim, to please each other, and unite in the grand design of being happy, and communicating happiness.

Finally, my brethren, as this association has been formed and perfected with so much unanimity and concord, in which we greatly rejoice, so may it long continue. May you long enjoy every satisfaction and delight

which disinterested friendship can afford. May kindness and brotherly affection distinguish your conduct, as men, and as Masons. Within your peaceful walls, may your children's children celebrate with joy and gratitude, the transactions of this auspicious solemnity. And may *the tenets of our profession* be transmitted through your Lodge, pure and unimpaired, from generation to generation.

12. The Grand Marshal then proclaims the New Lodge in the following manner, viz.:

In the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of North Carolina, I proclaim this new Lodge by the name of ----- Lodge, No. ----, to be legally constituted, consecrated, and the officers thereof duly installed.

13. A piece of Music is then performed.

14. Benediction.

The procession is then formed, and returns to the hall whence it set out.

The Worshipful Master having been previously inducted into the *Oriental Chair of Solomon*, all but Master Masons are caused to retire.

A procession is then formed, and passes three times around the hall; and upon passing the Master, pays him due homage by the usual honors, in the different degrees.

While the procession is passing around, the following Ode is sung :

HAIL, MASONRY divine !  
 Glory of ages shine ;  
 Long may'st thou reign !  
 Where'er thy lodges stand,  
 May they have great command  
 And always grace the laud,  
 Thou Art divine ;

Great fabrics still arise,  
 And grace the azure skies ;  
 Great are thy schemes ;  
 Thy noble orders are  
 Matchless beyond compare ;  
 No art with thee can share,  
 Thou Art divine.

Hiram, the architect,  
 Did all the craft direct  
 How they should build :  
 Sol'mon, great Israel's king,  
 Did mighty blessings bring,  
 And left us room to sing,  
 Hail, royal Art !

Chorus,  
 three times.

[The foregoing ceremonies, from page 86, are to be used in the annual installation of officers of a Lodge.]

## CHAPTER SECOND.

**Dedication of Masonic Halls.**

On the day appointed for the celebration of the ceremony of dedication, the Grand Master and his officers, accompanied by the members of the Grand Lodge, meet in a room near the place where the ceremony is to be performed, and the Grand Lodge is opened in ample form in the third degree of Masonry. The Master of the Lodge to which the hall to be dedicated belongs, being present, rises and addresses the Grand Master as follows :

*Most Worshipful Grand Master :*

The brethren of ----- Lodge, No. -- , being animated with a desire to promote the honor and interest of the Craft, have erected a Masonic Hall for their convenience and accommodation. They are desirous that the same should be examined by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and if it should meet their approbation, that it should be solemnly dedicated to Masonic purposes, agreeable to ancient form and usage.

The Grand Master then directs the Grand Secretary to read the following order of procession, which is delivered to the Grand Marshal, and a general charge respecting behavior is given.\*

**Order of Procession.†**

Tiler of oldest Lodge, with drawn Sword.  
 Stewards of oldest Lodge, with white Rods.  
 Entered Apprentices.  
 Fellow Crafts.  
 Master Masons.  
 Stewards, with Jewels.  
 Junior Deacons, with Jewels.  
 Senior Deacons, with Jewels.  
 Secretaries, with Jewels.  
 Treasurers, with Jewels.  
 Junior Wardens, with Jewels.  
 Senior Wardens, with Jewels.  
 Past Masters, with Jewels.  
 Master, with Jewel.  
 Music.

\*From this point the ceremonies may be of a public nature.

†This order may be changed so as to arrange each Lodge, according to age, separately in the procession.

*Grand Lodge in the following order :*

Grand Tiler with drawn Sword ;  
 Grand Stewards with white Rods ;  
 Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer ;  
 A Past Master, bearing the Holy Writings, Square and Compasses ;  
     Chaplain and Orator ;  
     Past Grand Wardens ;  
     Past Deputy Grand Masters ;  
     Past Grand Masters ;  
     Junior Grand Warden, carrying a Silver Vessel with Corn ;  
     Senior Grand Warden, carrying a Silver Vessel with Wine ;  
     Deputy Grand Master, carrying a Golden Vessel with Oil ;  
 Master of the oldest Lodge carrying the Book of Constitutions ;  
     Grand Master, supported by two Deacons with Rods ;  
     Grand Sword Bearer, with drawn Sword ;  
     Two Stewards with Rods.

The procession being formed, the whole move to the Hall which is to be dedicated, and upon the arrival of the procession at the door, they halt, open to the right and left, and face inward, while the Grand Master, and others in succession, pass through and enter. The music continues while the procession marches three times around the Hall.

A representation of a "Lodge," covered with white linen, is then placed in the centre, and the Grand Master, having then taken the chair, under a canopy of state, the Grand Officers and the Masters of the Lodges repair to the places previously prepared for their reception. The three Great Lights, and the Gold and Silver Pitchers, with the Corn, Wine and Oil, are placed around the representation of the Lodge, at the head of which stands the pedestal, with the three Great Lights laid thereon, and upon another pedestal the Constitution. Matters being thus arranged, the following Ode is sung :

*Air—Duke Street. L. M.*

Master Supreme ! accept our praise ;  
     Still bless this consecrated band ;  
 Parent of light ! illumine our ways,  
     And guide us by thy sovereign hand.

May Faith, Hope, Charity, divine,  
     Here hold their undivided reign ;  
 Friendship and Harmony combine  
     To soothe our cares—to banish pain.

May pity dwell within each breast,  
     Relief attend the suffering poor ;  
 Thousands by this, our Lodge, be blest,  
     Till worth, distress'd, shall want no more.

The Grand Master then briefly announces the occasion of the assemblage.

The Master of the Lodge then rises, and, approaching the East, addresses the Grand Master as follows :

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER :

The brethren of Lodge, No. -----, being animated with a desire to promote the honor and interest of the Craft, have erected a Masonic Hall for their convenience and accommodation. They are desirous that the same should be examined by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and, if it should meet their approbation, that it should be solemnly dedicated to Masonic purposes, agreeable to ancient form and usage.

The Architect then addresses the Grand Master as follows, presenting to him the Square, Level and Plumb :

MOST WORSHIPFUL :

Having been entrusted with the superintendence and management of the workmen employed in the construction of this Hall, and having, according to the best of my ability, accomplished the task assigned me, I now return my thanks for the honor of this appointment, and beg leave to surrender up the implements which were committed to my care, humbly hoping that the exertions which have been made on this occasion will be crowned with your approbation and that of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

To which the Grand Master makes the following reply :

BROTHER ARCHITECT :

The skill and fidelity displayed in the execution of the trust reposed in you at the commencement of this undertaking, have secured the entire approbation of the Grand Lodge, and they sincerely pray that this Hall may continue a lasting monument of the taste, spirit and liberality of its founders.

The Deputy Grand Master then rises and says :

MOST WORSHIPFUL :

The hall in which we are now assembled, and the plan upon which it has been constructed, having met with your approbation, it is the desire of the Fraternity that it should now be dedicated according to ancient form and usage.

The representation of the Lodge is then uncovered, and a procession is made around it in the following form (during which solemn music is played):

Grand Sword Bearer.		
A Past Master, with a light,		
A Past Master, with the Three Great Lights.		
Grand Secretary and Treasurer, with Jewels.		
Junior Grand Warden, with a Pitcher of Corn.		
Senior Grand Warden, with a Pitcher of Wine.		
Deputy Grand Master, with a Pitcher of Oil.		
Steward, with Rod.	GRAND MASTER.	Steward, with Rod.
Grand Tiler.		

All the other brethren keep their places, and when the Grand Master arrives at the East, the procession halts and the Grand Chaplain makes the following

#### Invocation :

"Great Architect of the Universe! Maker and Ruler of all the World! deign, from Thy celestial temple, from realms of light and glory, to bless us in all the purposes of our present assembly! We humbly invoke Thee to give us at this, and at all times, *wisdom* in all our doings, *strength* of mind in all our difficulties, and the *beauty* of harmony in all our communications! Permit us, O Thou Author of Light and Life, Great Source of Love and Happiness, to erect this hall, and solemnly dedicate it to the honor of Thy glory!"

At the conclusion the brethren respond:

"Glory be to God on high, on earth peace, good will toward men."

The Junior Grand Warden then presents the vessel of corn to the Grand Master, who pours it on the Lodge, saying:

In the name of the Great Jehovah I do solemnly dedicate this hall to FREEMASONRY.

The public Grand Honors are then given.

A piece of music is then performed, and the second procession is made around the Lodge.

When the Grand Master arrives at the East the music ceases, and the Senior Grand Warden presents him with the vessel of wine, which he sprinkles over the Lodge, saying:

In the name of the Holy Saints John I do solemnly dedicate this hall to VIRTUE.

The public Grand Honors are then given.

The music is resumed, and the third procession is made around the Lodge.

When the Grand Master arrives at the East the music ceases, and the Deputy Grand Master presents him with the vessel of oil, which he sprinkles over the Lodge, saying:

In the name of the whole Fraternity I do solemnly dedicate this hall to UNIVERSAL BENEVOLENCE.

The public Grand Honors are then given.

#### **Benediction by the Grand Chaplain.**

The Lord of grace and life mercifully look upon us and bless us ; make His face shine upon us that we may have peace ; and to Him be glory, now and forever. Amen.

Response by the brethren:

“Glory be to God on high, on earth peace, good will toward men.”

The Lodge is then covered, and the public Grand Honors are given, when the Grand Master resumes his chair, an oration is then pronounced, and the ceremonies conclude with music. Visitors not Masons retire. The Grand Lodge is then closed in ample form.



### **CHAPTER THIRD.**

#### **Laying Foundation-Stones of Public Structures.**

This Ceremony is conducted by the Grand Master and his officers, assisted by the members of the Grand Lodge, and such officers and members of Subordinate Lodges as can conveniently attend.

The Chief Magistrate and other civil officers of the place where the building is to be erected, also generally attend on the occasion.

At the time appointed, the Grand Lodge is convened in some suitable place.

A band of music is provided, and the brethren appear, dressed in dark clothes, and white gloves and aprons.

The Lodge is opened by the Grand Master, and the rules for regulating the procession to and from the place where the ceremony is to be performed, are read by the Grand Secretary.



The necessary cautions are then given from the Chair, and the Grand Lodge is called from labor; after which the procession sets out in the following order:

Tiler, with drawn Sword;  
 Stewards, with Rods;  
 Master Masons;  
 Two Deacons, with Rods;  
 Secretary and Treasurer;  
 Past Wardens;  
 Two Wardens;  
 Past Masters;  
 Mark Masters;  
 Royal Arch Masons;  
 Knights Templar;\*  
 Music;  
 Grand Tiler, with drawn Sword;  
 Grand Stewards, with white Rods;  
 Principal Architect, with Square, Level, and Plumb;  
 Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer;  
 Bible, Square, and Compasses, carried by a Master of a Lodge,  
 supported by two Stewards;  
 Grand Chaplains;  
 The Five Orders of Architecture;  
 Past Grand Wardens;  
 Past Deputy Grand Masters;  
 Past Grand Masters;  
 Chief Magistrate and Civil Officers of the place;

\*Whenever Knights Templar appear in a procession, they should act as an escort or guard of honor to the Grand Lodge.

Junior Grand Warden, carrying the Silver Vessel with Oil;  
 Senior Grand Warden, carrying the Silver Vessel with Wine;  
 Deputy Grand Master, carrying the Golden Vessel with Corn;  
 Master of the oldest Lodge, carrying the Book of Constitutions;  
 Grand Master,  
 Supported by two Deacons, with Rods;  
 Grand Standard-Bearer;  
 Grand Sword Bearer, with drawn Sword.

A triumphal arch is usually erected at the place where the ceremony is to be performed.

The procession, arriving at the arch, opens to the right and left, and, uncovering, the Grand Master and his officers pass through the lines to the platform, while the rest of the brethren surround the platform, forming a hollow square.

The Grand Master commands silence, and announces the purposes of the occasion, when the following or some other appropriate Ode is sung :

MUSIC—*Rule Britannia.*

When earth's foundation first was laid,  
By the Almighty Artist's hand,  
'Twas then our perfect, our perfect laws were made,  
Established by his strict command.  
Hail! mysterious, hail, glorious Masonry!  
That makes us ever great and free.

In vain mankind for shelter sought,  
In vain from place to place did roam,  
Until from heaven, from heaven he was taught  
To plan, to build, to fix his home.  
Hail! mysterious, etc.

Illustrious hence we date our Art,  
Which now in beauteous piles appear,  
And shall to endless, to endless time impart,  
How worthy and how great we are.  
Hail ! mysterious, etc.

Nor we less famed for every tie,  
By which the human thought is bound ;  
Love, truth and friendship, and friendship socially,  
Unite our hearts and hands around.  
Hail ! mysterious, etc.

Our actions still by Virtue blest,  
And to our precepts ever true,  
The world, admiring, admiring, shall request  
To learn, and our bright paths pursue.  
Hail ! mysterious, etc.

The necessary preparations are now made for laying the stone, on which are engraved the year of Masonry, the name of the Grand Master, and such other particulars as may be deemed necessary.

The stone is raised up by the means of an engine, erected for that purpose.

The Grand Chaplain delivers the following or some other appropriate

**Prayer :**

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee ; and dost promise that, where two or three are gathered together in thy name, thou wilt grant their quests ; fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them ; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

*Response.*—So mote it be.

The Grand Treasurer, by the Grand Master's command, places under the stone various sorts of coin and medals, Masonic documents, and such other matters as may be of interest.

Solemn music is introduced, and the stone is let down into its place.

The principal Architect then presents the working tools to the Grand Master, who hands the Square to the Deputy Grand Master, the Level to the Senior Grand Warden, and the Plumb to the Junior Grand Warden; when the Grand Master addresses the Grand Officers, as follows:

*Grand Master.* R. W. DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: What is the proper jewel of your office?

*Deputy Grand Master.* The Square.

*G. M.* What are its moral and Masonic uses?

*D. G. M.* To square our actions by the Square of Virtue, and prove our work.

*G. M.* Apply the implement of your office to that portion of the foundation-stone that needs to be proved, and make report.

The Deputy applies the Square to the stone, and says:

*D. G. M.* MOST WORSHIPFUL: I find the stone to be square. The Craftsmen have performed their duty.

*G. M.* R. W. SENIOR GRAND WARDEN: What is the proper jewel of your office?

*Senior Grand Warden.* The Level.

*G. M.* What is its Masonic use?

*S. G. W.* Morally, it reminds us of equality, and its use is to lay horizontals.

*G. M.* Apply the implement of your office to the foundation-stone, and make report.

This is done.

*S. G. W.* MOST WORSHIPFUL: I find the stone to be level. The Craftsmen have performed their duty.

*G. M.* R. W. JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN: What is the proper jewel of your office?

*Junior Grand Warden.* The Plumb.

*G. M.* What is its Masonic use?

*J. G. W.* Morally, it teaches rectitude of conduct, and we use it to try perpendiculars.

*G. M.* Apply the implement of your office to the several edges of the foundation-stone, and make report.

This is complied with.

*J. G. W.* MOST WORSHIPFUL: I find the stone is plumb. The Craftsmen have performed their duty.

*G. M.* This corner-stone has been tested by the proper implements of Masonry. I find that the Craftsmen have skillfully and faithfully performed their duty, and I do declare the stone to be well formed, true, and trusty, and correctly laid, according to the rules of our ancient Craft.

Let the elements of Consecration now be presented.

The Deputy Grand Master comes forward with the vessel of Corn, and, scattering it on the stone, says:

I scatter this corn as an emblem of plenty. May the blessings of bounteous Heaven be showered upon us and upon all like patriotic and benevolent undertakings, and inspire the hearts of the people with virtue, wisdom, and gratitude.

*Response.*—So mote it be.

The Senior Grand Warden then comes forward with the vessel of Wine, and pours it upon the stone, saying:

I pour this wine as an emblem of joy and gladness. May the Great Ruler of the Universe bless and prosper our national, state, and city governments, preserve the union of the States, and may it be a bond of Friendship and Brotherly Love that shall endure through all time.

*Response.*—So mote it be.

The Junior Grand Warden then comes forward with a vessel of Oil, which he pours upon the stone, saying,

I pour this oil as an emblem of peace. May its blessings abide with us continually, and may the Grand Master of heaven and earth shelter and protect the widow and orphan, shield and defend them from trials and vicissitudes of the world, and so bestow his mercy upon the bereaved, the afflicted, and the sorrowing, that they may know sorrowing and trouble no more.

*Response.*—So mote it be.

The Grand Master, standing in front of all, and extending his hands, makes the following

#### Invocation.

May the all-bounteous Author of Nature bless the inhabitants of this place with an abundance of the necessities, conveniences and comforts of life; assist in the erection and completion of this building; protect the workmen against every accident; long preserve the structure from decay; and grant to us all a supply of the CORN of *nourishment*, the WINE of *refreshment*, and the OIL of *joy*.—AMEN.

*Response.*—So mote it be.

The Grand Master strikes the stone three times with the gavel, and the public Grand Honors are given.

The Grand Master then delivers over to the Architect the implements of architecture ; saying,

WORTHY SIR (or BROTHER): Having thus, as Grand Master of Masons, laid the foundation-stone of this structure, I now deliver these implements of your profession into your hands, intrusting you with the superintendence and direction of the work, having full confidence in your skill and capacity to conduct the same.

The Grand Master ascends the platform, when an appropriate Anthem may be sung.

The Grand Master then addresses the assembly as follows :

MEN AND BRETHREN HERE ASSEMBLED : Be it known unto you, that we be lawful Masons, true and faithful to the laws of our country, and engaged, by solemn obligations, to erect magnificent buildings, to be serviceable to the brethren, and to fear God, the Great Architect of the Universe. We have among us, concealed from the eyes of all men, secrets which cannot be divulged, and which have never been found out ; but these secrets are lawful and honorable, and not repugnant to the laws of God or man. They were intrusted, in peace and honor, to the Masons of ancient times, and having been faithfully transmitted to us, it is our duty to convey them unimpaired to the latest posterity. Unless our Craft were good, and our calling honorable, we should not have lasted for so many centuries, nor should we have been honored with the patronage of so many illustrious men in all ages, who have ever shown themselves ready to promote our interests and defend us from all adversaries. We are assembled here to-day in the face of you all, to build a house, which we pray GOD may deserve to prosper, by becoming a place of concourse for good men, and promoting harmony and brotherly love throughout the world, till time shall be no more.—AMEN.

*Response.*—So mote it be.

#### ORATION.

The Grand Chaplain then pronounces the benediction.

The procession returns in the same order to the place whence it set out, and the Grand Lodge is closed with the usual formalities.

## CHAPTER FOURTH.

## Funeral Services.

This Chapter contains the ceremonies to be observed on the occasions of Funerals.

## Directions.

I. No Mason can be buried with the formalities of the Fraternity, unless he has been raised to the degree of Master Mason, and is a member in good standing of a regular Lodge at the time of his death ; nor unless at his own request, a member of his family, or the Lodge of which he was a member. It is, however, the duty of the Master of the Lodge, on the decease of a member, or sojourning brother, in regular standing, to ascertain if Masonic honors would be agreeable, and, if so, to cause the necessary and proper Masonic arrangements to be made therefor.

II. Entered Apprentices or Fellow Crafts cannot unite as Masons in the funeral obsequies of a brother.

III. The Master of the Lodge having supervision of the ceremonies may invite other Lodges, or their individual members, to participate in the services of respect, but the entire ceremony must be under his direction.

IV. If other orders or organizations unite with the Masonic Fraternity in the burial of a Mason, the body of the deceased must be in charge of the Lodge having jurisdiction, and the Masonic services at the grave should succeed all other services and the Masons should complete the burial.

V. The pall-bearers should be selected by the officiating Master from among the Masons, but some of them may be the representatives of other orders or organizations of which the deceased was a member ; they shall, however, be clothed as Masons.

VI. On funeral or burial occasions Masons should, when practicable, be clothed in black, with white aprons and gloves, officers with their jewels, and all with black crape upon their left arm above the elbow. In addition a piece of blue ribbon, overlaid with narrow black ribbon, may be worn on the lappel of the coat, according to individual taste. Each one should, also, provide himself with a sprig of evergreen.

VII. The order of procession should be strictly observed as prescribed in this service. When the head of the procession shall arrive at the place where the funeral or burial services are to be performed, the column shall open order, facing inward, and the officers, according to rank, preceded by the Marshal and Tiler, pass through and the others follow in order. When the procession is reformed the usual order is to be observed. The order of exercises at the grave is prescribed in the body of the service.

The brethren being assembled at the Lodge room (or some other convenient place), the presiding officer opens the Lodge in the third degree, with the usual forms ; and having stated the purpose of the communication, the service begins :

Master. "What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death ? Shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave ?"

Response. "Man walketh in a vain shadow ; he heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them."

Master. "When he dieth he shall carry nothing away; his glory shall not descend after him."

Response. "Naked he came into the world, and naked he must return."

Master. "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord!"

The Master then taking the *roll* in his hand, says,

"Let us live and die like the righteous, that our last end may be like his!"

The Brethren answer, "God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even unto death!"

The Master then records the name and age of the deceased upon the *roll*, and says,

"Almighty Father! in thy hands we leave with humble submission the soul of our deceased Brother."

The Brethren answer three times (giving the *grand honors* each time),

"The will of God is accomplished! So mote it be. Amen."

The Master then deposits the *roll* in the *archives*, and repeats the following Prayer:

"Most glorious God! author of all good, and giver of all mercy! pour down thy blessings upon us, and strengthen our solemn engagements with ties of sincere affection! May the present instance of mortality remind us of our approaching fate, and draw our attention toward thee, the only refuge in time of need! that, when the awful moment shall arrive, that we are about to quit this transitory scene, the enlivening prospect of thy mercy, may dispel the gloom of death; and after our departure hence in peace, and in thy favor, may we be received into thine everlasting kingdom, to enjoy, in union with the souls of our departed friends, the just reward of a pious and virtuous life. Amen."

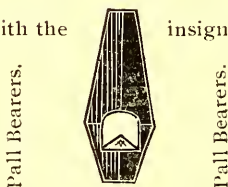
A procession is then formed, which moves to the house of the deceased, and thence to the place of interment.



**Order of Procession.**

Tiler with drawn Sword ;  
 Stewards with white Rods ;  
 Musicians (if they are Masons), otherwise they follow the Tiler ;  
 Marshal ;                      Master Masons ;  
                                      Senior and Junior Deacons ;  
                                      Treasurer and Secretary ;  
                                      Senior and Junior Wardens ;  
                                      Mark Masters ;  
                                      Past Masters ;  
                                      Royal Arch Masons ;  
                                      Select Masters ;  
                                      Knights Templar ;  
 The Holy Writings, on a cushion, covered with black cloth, carried by  
                                      the oldest (or some suitable) member of the Lodge ;  
                                      The Master ;  
                                      Clergy ;

The Body, with the                      insignia placed thereon.



When the procession arrives at the churchyard, the members of the Lodge form a circle around the grave ; and the clergymen and officers of the Lodge take their station at the head of the grave, and the mourners at the foot. The service is resumed, and the following Exhortation is given :

“ Here we view a striking instance of the uncertainty of life, and the vanity of all human pursuits. The last offices paid to the dead are only useful as lectures to the living : from them we are to derive instruction, and to consider every solemnity of this kind as a summons to prepare for our approaching dissolution.

“ Notwithstanding the various mementoes of mortality, with which we daily meet ; notwithstanding Death has established his empire over all the works of Nature ; yet, through some unaccountable infatuation, we forget that we are born to die ; we go on from one design to another, add hope to hope, and lay out plans for the employment of many years, till we are suddenly alarmed with the approach of Death, when we least expect him, and at an hour which we probably conclude to be the meridian of our existence.

"What are all the externals of majesty, the pride of wealth, or charms of beauty, when Nature has paid her just debt? Fix your eyes on the last scene, and view life stript of her ornaments, and exposed in her natural meanness; you will then be convinced of the futility of those empty delusions. In the grave, all fallacies are detected, all ranks are leveled, and all distinctions are done away.

"While we drop the sympathetic tear over the grave of our deceased friend, let charity incline us to throw a veil over his foibles, whatever they may have been, and not withhold from his memory the praise that his virtues may have claimed. Suffer the apologies of human nature to plead in his behalf. Perfection on earth has never been attained; the wisest, as well as the best of men, have erred.

"Let the present example excite our most serious thoughts, and strengthen our resolutions of amendment. As life is uncertain, and all earthly pursuits are vain, let us no longer postpone the all-important concern of preparing for eternity; but embrace the happy moment, while time and opportunity offer, to provide against the great change, when all the pleasures of this world shall cease to delight, and the reflections of a virtuous and holy life yield the only comfort and consolation. Thus our expectations will not be frustrated, nor we hurried unprepared into the presence of an all-wise and powerful Judge, to whom the secrets of all hearts are known.

"Let us, while in this state of existence, support with propriety the character of our profession, advert to the nature of our solemn ties, and pursue with assiduity the sacred tenets of our order. Then, with becoming reverence, let us seek the favor of the ETERNAL GOD, so that when the awful moment of death arrives, be it soon or late, we may be enabled to prosecute our journey, without dread or apprehension, to that far distant country, whence no traveller returns."

The following invocations are then made by the Master :

Master. "May we be true and faithful; and may we live and die in love!"

Answer. "So mote it be."

Master. "May we profess what is good, and always act agreeably to our profession!"

Answer. "So mote it be."

Master. "May the Lord bless us and prosper us, and may all our good intentions be crowned with success!"

Answer. "So mote it be."

Master. "Glory be to God in the highest; on earth peace! good will towards men!"

Answer. "So mote it be, now, from henceforth, and forevermore. Amen."

The apron is taken off the coffin and handed to the Master—the coffin is deposited in the grave—and the Master says:

“ This Lamb Skin, or white leather Apron, is an emblem of Innocence, and the badge of a Mason, more ancient than the golden fleece or Roman eagle; more honorable than the star and garter, when worthily worn. [*The Master then deposits it in the grave.*] This emblem I now deposit in the grave of our deceased Brother. By this we are reminded of the universal dominion of Death. The arm of Friendship cannot oppose the King of Terrors nor the charms of innocence elude his grasp. This grave, that coffin, this circle of mourning friends, remind us that we, too, are mortal: soon shall our bodies moulder to dust. Then how important for us that we should know that our REDEEMER liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the Earth. [*The Master holding the evergreen in his hand, continues.*] This *evergreen* is an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul. By this we are reminded that we have an immortal part within us, which shall survive the grave, and which shall never, never, never die.

The brethren then move in procession around the place of interment, and severally drop the sprig of evergreen into the grave; after which, *the public grand honors are given.*

The Master then continues the ceremony at the grave, in the following words:

“ From time immemorial, it has been the custom among the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, at the request of a brother, to accompany his remains to the place of interment, and there to deposit them with the usual formalities.

“ In conformity to this usage, and at the request of our deceased brother,\* whose memory we revere, and whose loss we now deplore, we have assembled in the character of masons, to offer up to his memory, before the world, the last tribute of our affection; thereby demonstrating the sincerity of our past esteem for him, and our steady attachment to the principles of the order.

“ The great Creator having been pleased, out of his infinite mercy, to remove our brother from the cares and troubles of a transitory existence, to a state of eternal duration, and thereby to weaken the chain by which we are united man to man; may we, who survive him, anticipate our approaching fate, and be more strongly cemented in the ties of union and friendship; that, during the short space allotted to our present existence, we may wisely and usefully employ our time; and, in the reciprocal intercourse of kind and friendly acts, mutually promote the welfare and happiness of each other.

\*If the request is made by the family of the deceased, or Lodge to which he belonged, the Master should change the language in reading accordingly.

"Unto the grave we have resigned the body of our deceased brother, earth to earth, dust to dust, ashes to ashes, there to remain until the trump shall sound on the resurrection morn. We can cheerfully leave him in the hands of a Being who has done all things well; who is glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders. Then let us all so improve this solemn warning, that on the great day of account we may receive from the compassionate Judge, the welcome invitation, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

"So mote it be. Amen."

"Almighty and eternal God, in whom we live, and move and have our being—and before whom all men must appear in the judgment day to give an account of their deeds in life; we, who are daily exposed to flying shafts of death, and now surround the grave of our fallen brother; most earnestly beseech thee to impress deeply on our minds the solemnities of this day, as well as the lamentable occurrence that has occasioned them. Here may we be forcibly reminded, that in the midst of life we are in death, and that whatever *elevation* of character we may have attained; however *upright* and *square* the course we have pursued; yet shortly must we all submit as victims of its destroying power, and endure the humbling *level* of the tomb, until the last loud trump shall sound the summons of our *resurrection* from mortality and *corruption*.

"May we have thy divine assistance, O merciful God, to redeem our misspent time; and in the discharge of the important duties thou hast assigned us in the erection of our moral edifice, may we have *wisdom* from on high to direct us, *strength* commensurate with our *task* to support us, and the *beauty* of holiness to adorn and render all our performances acceptable in thy sight; and when our work is done, and our bodies mingle with the *mother earth*, may our souls, disengaged from their cumbrous dust, flourish and bloom in eternal day; and enjoy that rest which thou hast prepared for all good and faithful servants, in that spiritual house, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Amen."

"So mote it be. Amen."

The procession then returns in form to the place whence it set out, where the necessary duties are complied with, and the Lodge is closed in the third degree.

NOTE. If the Grand Master attends, and presides at any ceremony, it is said to be performed in *ample form*;—if a subordinate officer of the Grand Lodge, in *due form*; if vested in the Master of a Subordinate Lodge, in *form*.



## INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

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At the hour appointed for the installation of the officers of the Grand Lodge, the installing officer (who should be the retiring Grand Master, the actual Grand Master of another jurisdiction, or a Past Grand Master), will assume the Chair and call to order, and announce the business before the Grand Lodge. The officers to be installed will then vacate their places respectively, and substitutes will be appointed for the occasion. The Grand Master and the other Grand Officers elect to be installed will be in waiting in an adjoining apartment.

The announcement of the Installing Officer may be in the following form :

BRETHREN : Your Grand Master and other Grand Officers for the ensuing year having been duly elected, we are now in readiness to perform the ceremony of installation. The Grand Marshal will announce to them that we are waiting to receive them.

The Grand Marshal then retires, and on his return, reports :

MOST WORSHIPFUL : The Grand Master, and other Grand Officers elect, are without in readiness to be installed into office, when it is your pleasure to receive them.

INSTALLING OFFICER : The Grand Marshal will admit them and conduct them to the East before the altar. (Any objection to the installation must now be made.)

As they enter the room, the Grand Lodge is called up by the Installing Officer in the usual manner, and remains standing.

The Grand Marshal conducts them to the altar in procession, two and two, in order of rank—the Grand Master elect and the Deputy Grand Master being first. He then says :

Most Worshipful, the Grand Officers elect are before you, and await your pleasure. I have the honor to present to you for installation Brother -----, who has been duly elected Grand Master of Masons of the State of North Carolina for the ensuing year.

INSTALLING OFFICER. (To the Grand Master elect.) My Brother, the exalted station to which the free choice of your brethren has called you, involves great responsibilities, and requires to be inaugurated by solemn sanctions. It elevates you to a position from which the power and prerogatives may depart with the expiration of your term of service, but the honor and dignity, except by your own act, never. Have you been instructed in the secret rites and ceremonies appertaining to the high

office of Grand Master of Masons preparatory to your installation, and by which you may acquire and forever retain the evidence of your rank among Masons?

Grand Master elect. I have not.

INS. OFF. My brother, it will be necessary for you to retire and receive those instructions from our Most Worshipful Past Grand Master here present, who will escort you. And as we are now upon the threshold of a great and important undertaking, Masonic teachings require that we should bow in solemn prayer with our Grand Chaplain.

GRAND CHAPLAIN. Brethren, let us pray! \* \* \* \* \*

INS. OFF. The Most Worshipful Brethren, Past Grand Masters present, will now retire with the Grand Master elect, and give him the suitable instruction in the manner known to them only, preliminary to the further ceremonies of installation. Brethren will be seated.

He then calls "down," and the Grand Officers elect, other than the Grand Master, are provided with seats near the altar. The Past Grand Masters retire to some suitable apartment and engage in the proper ceremonies with the Grand Master elect. When this is done they return, having previously given notice of their approach by the Grand Marshal. Upon their entrance, the Grand Lodge is again called up, and after they have arrived near the East, one of their number says:

"Most Worshipful, our distinguished brother having been duly instructed by us, is now prepared to assume his installation vows."

INS. OFF. It is well; and with pleasure do we now proceed in our further service. Grand Marshal, you will conduct our brother to the altar, to take upon himself the obligation appertaining to the duties of his office.

The Grand Marshal conducts him to the altar, where he kneels, the acting Grand Deacons holding their rods crossed over his head. The Installing Officer then administers the oath of office, the Grand Master elect repeating after him, as follows:

"I solemnly promise, upon the honor of a Mason, that, in the office of -----, I will, according to the best of my abilities, strictly comply with the laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge, and other ancient Masonic usages."

He then rises, and the Grand Marshal conducts him near the chair of the Installing Officer.

INS. OFF. Most Worshipful Brother—(for from henceforth you are entitled thus to be hailed)—in inducting you to your chair of office as a symbol of the commencement of your government over the Craft, I am performing a most solemn duty. By immemorial usage and the irrevocable landmarks of Masonry, you are invested, as Grand Master of



Masons, with powers and prerogatives which are well nigh absolute. The interests of the Craft, for weal or woe, are placed in your hands during your term of office. The good resolutions, which I doubt not that you have formed in your own mind that these powers shall not be abused or perverted by you, I would gladly strengthen by a word of admonition, which it will not become one henceforth to utter. The very consciousness of the possession of a great power will ever make a generous mind cautious and gentle in its exercise. To rule has been the lot of many, and requires neither strength of intellect, nor soundness of judgment; to rule *well* has been the fortune of but few, and may well be the object of all honorable ambition. It is not by the strong arm or the iron will that obedience and order, the chief requisites of good government, are secured, but by holding the key to the hearts of men.

The office of Grand Master is of great antiquity and respect, and is one of the highest dignities to which we may aspire. Its incumbent, to rule well, should possess and practice several important requisites. As a *man*, he should be of approved integrity and irreproachable morals; freed from the dominion of hasty temper and ill-governed passions; of good repute in the world, and practicing, as an example to the Craft, the cardinal virtues of Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice. As a *citizen*, he should be loyal to his government, obedient to its laws, prompt in the duties he owes to society, and a pattern of fidelity in all social and domestic relations. As a *Mason*, he should cling to the old landmarks, and be sternly opposed to their infringement; be proficient in the laws, language, and literature of the fraternity; be desirous to learn, and apt to teach; though not for the time a workman, yet be master of the work and qualified to earn his wages; be prompt to aid and relieve, and slow to demand it; be ever mindful that, though elevated for a time above his fellows, he is elevated by them, and that he is yet a craftsman, more sacredly bound by a craftsman's obligation; and that he should cultivate everywhere, and at all times, the golden tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. As an *officer*, he should remember, first of all, that he is an individual Mason, sharing in that respect a common lot with his brethren, and, therefore, interested in the welfare of each and all; be devoid of undue ostentation and haughty overbearing; be accessible to all; cultivating the closest friendship and the most unlimited confidence with his associate officers; be eager to take counsel with his brethren, and ready to give it; be patient in investigation and hearing; be deliberate in judgment; be prompt in execution; be forbearing long and much with evil-doers; be ready to reward good; be devoid of favoritism and wholly impartial; be watchful over the treasury; having an eagle eye upon every portion of his jurisdiction; and breasting over the restless spirit of innovation. Such are some of the most important qualifications which a Grand Master should possess, and the leading errors which he should avoid. It may be that most, if not all, your

predecessors have failed to reach this standard, but it is attainable ; and be it your purpose to reach it, and be a bright and shining example to those who shall come after you ! It now but remains for me to clothe you with the external insignia of your rank and authority. I now with pleasure invest you with this jewel of your office, whose symbolic meaning will now have a new and striking significance to you. (Presents the jewel.) I also present you with this gavel as the potent emblem of Masonic power, which, in your hands, should never be sounded in vain. (Presents the gavel.) I now surrender to you this seat of authority. (Conducts him to the chair.) And render you this, the first act of homage due to you as Grand Master.

The Grand Master having been covered on taking the chair, the Installing Officer uncovers and bows.

INS. OFF. I now hail, salute, and proclaim you Grand Master of Masons of the State of North Carolina ! Brethren, behold your Grand Master !

SENIOR GRAND WARDEN : Brethren, behold our Grand Master !

JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN : Brethren, behold our Grand Master !

The brethren, with their arms crossed \* \* \* \* and then all, under the direction of the Installing Officer, salute with the public grand honors.

The retiring Grand Master may then address his newly installed successor and brethren, and the Grand Master may, if he chooses, also address the Grand Lodge. If he does not wish to do so, he may call "down," and the brethren remain seated during the remainder of the installation, except when called up during the obligations. It will be proper for the Grand Master here to announce the names of the appointed officers, that they may be installed with the rest.

In the case of the re-election of a Grand Master the preceding ceremony will be omitted, except that he be conducted near the chair, the charge given him, invested with the jewel and gavel, inducted and saluted as above directed, so in the case of any other officer being re-elected, he will be invested, and given the charge only. The Grand Master then proceeds with the installation of the remaining officers, or he may place the Installing Officer again in the chair, delivering him, without ceremony, the gavel and jewel.

INS. OFF. Grand Marshal, will you now present the Deputy Grand Master elect for installation.

GRAND MARSHAL. Most Worshipful: I have the pleasure to present to you for installation, Brother -----, who has been duly elected to the office of Deputy Grand Master.

The foregoing address of the Installing Officer, and presentation by the Grand Master, may be used for all the remaining officers, simply changing the name and title of the officer. The order of the Installing Officer, next following, will be omitted when the officer to be installed has been re-elected.

INS. OFF. Grand Marshal, you will conduct our brother to the altar to take upon himself the obligation appertaining to the duties of his office.

The Grand Marshal conducts him to the altar, when he kneels, and is attended by the Grand Deacons, as in the case of the Grand Master, and takes the same obligation, with the change of name and designation of office.

INS. OFF. Right Worshipful Brother, you have not been an inattentive observer of the ceremony of installing the Most Worshipful Grand Master, for you are aware that, in case of his incapacity to act in contingencies mentioned in our constitutions, you succeed to his duties and prerogatives, as you do, also, when acting as his substitute in any matters specially delegated to you. Your office, therefore, is one of great dignity and importance, and it was in view of these considerations that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge selected you to fill it. Treasure up, therefore, the suggestions made to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, for you know not how soon they may have a personal application to you; and remember also, that usage, as well as our particular regulations, has placed you in the most intimate and confidential relations to him, as supporter and counsellor. I now, with pleasure, proceed to invest you with your jewel of office (gives it), and proclaim you Deputy Grand Master of Masons of the State of North Carolina. You will now be seated in your place, which is at the right hand of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Before he is seated the Installing Officer calls up the Grand Lodge and the Deputy Grand Master is saluted with the grand honors.

The others of the first six elective Grand Officers are presented in like manner as the Deputy Grand Master, but without being saluted with the grand honors, the Wardens taking the same obligation. The charges to the remaining officers installed are as follows:

#### **To the Senior Grand Warden.**

Right Worshipful Brother, the position which you occupy in the Grand Lodge, and among the fraternity, is one of no little importance. In the Grand Lodge, to control practically the admission of all visitors, to announce specially those who are of rank or eminence, and to aid in the preservation of order, and at all times to render counsel and advice to the Grand Master, are high and responsible duties, requiring circumspection, vigilance and reflection; but when to these is superadded the more onerous labor, in conjunction with the Junior Grand Warden, of diligently preserving the ancient landmarks throughout the jurisdiction, it then becomes a trust of deep moment to the welfare of the craft. Your fitness for the discharge of such a trust undoubtedly led to your selection for the office by your brethren, and it will be your duty and

pleasure so to act as to justify their confidence. In investing you with the jewel of your office, and directing you to the place of your immediate official action in the West, I am performing a grateful duty.

#### To the Junior Grand Warden.

Right Worshipful Brother, as the duties of your office and the qualifications for it are almost identical with those of the Senior Grand Warden, except as it respects the introduction of visitors, I will only add to the charge given to that officer, that you be equally vigilant and circumspect, not only at your station in the Grand Lodge, but in the broader field of action without, dividing with him his labors and taking due care that the great object of your united solicitude shall remain inviolate. Accept the jewel of your office, and repair to the South, being ever watchful, whether in labor, or at refreshment, that the *high-twelve* of observation does not find you with your work, and that of the Craft you superintend, unperformed.

#### To the Grand Treasurer.

Right Worshipful Brother, in intrusting you with the books and funds of the Grand Lodge, as appertaining to your office, I am but their organ in placing them in your possession, as one well qualified to keep and manage them, as your past integrity, accuracy and prompt business habits testify, an appreciation of which has been evinced by their choice of you as Grand Treasurer. The keys forming the jewel of your office have a two-fold significance. They are instruments to bind as well as to loose; to make fast as well as to open. They will never, I am confident, be used by you in any other manner than the constitution and laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge, shall direct.

#### To the Grand Secretary.

Right Worshipful Brother, usage as well as positive enactments from time to time, has rendered the duties of the office of Grand Secretary more onerous and varied than that of any other officer. Brought by his official position more immediately into communication with the whole body of the fraternity, it is requisite that he should possess ability, skill and industry to meet the various demands upon him. Placed in a position where he holds almost constant correspondence with our Masonic brethren in every State and country, upon him devolve, in a large degree, the good name and credit of the Masonic family of this State. The fraternity should enable him to maintain it; he should strive that it be maintained. Courtesy and patience are to be elements in his manners and character. Vigilance and fidelity must, also, be necessary qualities. Our constitutions, my brother, point out to you fully the duties of your

office, and I will not recapitulate them. Your capability for their prompt and faithful execution has induced your brethren to confide this trust to you, and I feel assured that it is well placed. In investing you with your official jewel, the pens, I am persuaded that they will make an endearing record, not only to your praise, but to the welfare of a craft so largely dependent upon your experience and integrity.

#### To the Grand Chaplain.

Reverend and Worshipful Brother, that Holy Book, which is the chart and text-book of your sacred calling, is also the great light of Masonry, and forever sheds its benignant rays upon every lawful assemblage of Free and Accepted Masons. Teach us from its life-giving precepts; intercede for us with that Divine majesty which it so fully reveals and unfolds to us; and warn us by its lessons of infinite wisdom and truth, and you will have faithfully performed your sacred functions, and fulfilled your important trust. It is fitting that an emblem of the sacred volume should be the jewel of your office, with which I now invest you.

#### To the Grand Lecturer.

Brother, the care and preservation of our ancient ritual, and the perpetuation of the time-honored landmarks embraced in it, and which may not be written, devolve upon you, and as that ritual has enshrined within it, in symbol and allegory, certain great and essential moral truths, you should be as perfect in the symbolism as in the mere formula of language which teaches us how our rites are to be administered. As Grand Lecturer, also, you should be master of the ceremonial observances of the fraternity, and give instructions in the manner of rendering them most striking and effective. You are the preceptor of the fraternity, and your deportment should be consistent with the nature of your office-work. For upon your teachings depend not only the uniformity and perpetuity, but the character and impressiveness of our rites, and they should be imparted, both by oral communication and example. On no point are the craft so punctilious and exacting as upon the beauty and accuracy of the work and lectures; hence, many eyes will be upon you. A courteous manner, an unwearied patience and a diligent application, are requisites for your place, and no rash or innovating hand will be tolerated in your department of labor.

In installing you into office and presenting your jewel, I am happy to be enabled to say that your established skill and learning, and your ability to undergo the constitutional tests, have proved you to be a Master workman.



**To the Grand Deacons.**

Brothers, as messengers of the Grand Officers, and as useful assistants in our ceremonies, your respective official positions are of great value and importance to the comfort and good order of the Grand Lodge. Vigilance and zeal are necessary requisites of your offices, and we know that you possess them. As Senior and Junior Grand Deacons of this Grand Lodge, you are now invested with the jewels of office, together with these rods as tokens of your authority.

**To the Grand Marshal.**

Brother, the duties of your office require energy, activity and quickness of perception. The good order of the fraternity, in its general assemblies and processions, depends upon your care, skill and assiduity. Possessing these qualifications, you have been appointed Grand Marshal, and I now with pleasure, install you into office, and invest you with your appropriate jewel. It denotes command, as the organ of the Grand Master, and you will be near at hand to execute his orders.

**To the Grand Sword Bearer.**

Brother, the sword which you bear is the time-honored symbol of justice and authority. It reminds the beholder of the dignity of the body whose emblem it is. It is, also, the guardian and protector of the standard of the Grand Lodge. Be ever faithful to your trust. Let this jewel of your office remind you of its nature.

**To the Grand Pursuivant.**

Brother, you are to act as the messenger of the Grand Lodge, and the herald to announce the approach of visitors and strangers. In so doing, possess yourself of the necessary information and announce their rank and position properly, and exercise a sound discretion, so as not to interfere with its labors. Be cautious and vigilant, that no improper person may gain admittance. You, also, have in your keeping the clothing and jewels of the Grand Officers, which you should be careful to keep in a good condition, and neatly and orderly arranged for use at all times. Receive your emblem of office and repair to your station inside the door.

**To the Grand Standard Bearer.**

Brother, your duty is to carry and uphold the banner of the Grand Lodge on occasions of ceremony and public procession. The emblems upon it are as ancient as the march of the children of Israel from bondage, and the ark is the symbol of hope and safety. Bear them well aloft, for the world, as well as the Craft, ever honors them. Receive the jewel of your office, and let it remind you that you are never to part with that standard, when under your care, while you have life to defend it.

### To the Grand Stewards.

Brothers, in olden times your province was to superintend and provide for the festivals of the Craft, and that duty still remains to you, although there is rarely occasion for its exercise. But we are taught that "it is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of feasting," and hence in you has been appropriately imposed the dispensation of our beneficent charities. That it is a grateful duty all hearts testify, and we know that yours most fully responds to it. Receive the jewels of your office, together with the white rods.

### To the Grand Tiler.

Brother, the importance of the duties of your place cannot be over-rated. Care and watchfulness are indispensably requisite, and in all cases, unless thoroughly satisfied with the character and identity of those desiring admittance, let your doubts prevail. Ours is a sanctuary, intrusted to you faithfully and vigilantly to guard, and you have always at hand the means of being fully satisfied. Irreparable injury might result from a negligent or careless discharge of your duty. Your station is ever outside the door, to which you will now repair with this jewel, and, also, with this implement of your office (giving a sword.)

The several officers now being duly installed, the Installing Officer will retire, after surrendering the jewel and gavel to the Grand Master. It will be proper and expedient, before doing so, to have an appropriate ode or piece of music sung.

GRAND MASTER. Grand Marshal, I now declare the several officers of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of North Carolina duly installed into office, for the ensuing year, in ample form. You will cause proclamation to be made in the South, West and East.

The Junior Grand Deacon proclaims in the South, the Senior Grand Deacon in the West, and the Grand Marshal in the East, each as follows, the Grand Lodge being called up:

By order of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and by authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of North Carolina, I proclaim that its Grand Officers are now duly installed in ample form. So mote it be!

The Grand Lodge is called "down."





# FORMS.

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## No. 1.—Petition for a Dispensation.

*To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient,  
Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina :*

*The Undersigned Petitioners* being Free and Accepted Master Masons in good standing, having the prosperity of the Fraternity at heart, and willing to exert their best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry, and for the convenience of their respective dwellings ; and other good reasons, respectfully represent :

That they are desirous of forming a new Lodge at -----, in the county of -----, (which is ---- miles from the nearest Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction), to be named -----.

*They, therefore,* pray for a Dispensation to empower them to assemble as a regular Lodge, to discharge the duties of Masonry in a regular and constitutional manner, according to the ancient forms of the order and the regulations of the Grand Lodge.

They have nominated, and do recommend, Brother ----- to be the first Master, Brother ----- to be the first Senior Warden, Brother ----- to be the first Junior Warden, of said Lodge.

If the prayer of this petition shall be granted, they promise a strict conformity to the edicts of the Grand Master, and the constitution and laws of the Grand Lodge.

(Signatures.)

*To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient,  
Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina :*

*It is hereby certified that,* at a ----- Communication of ----- Lodge, No. ----, held on the ----- day of -----, A. D., 18----, A. L., 58----, the foregoing petition was presented, and the petitioners were recommended to the Grand Master as Master Masons in good standing.

*It is further certified,* that Brother -----, who is recommended as Master, Brother -----, who is recommended as Senior Warden, and Brother -----, who is recommended as Junior Warden, of the proposed new Lodge, did appear in open Lodge, were duly examined and exhibited due skill and proficiency in the ritual and laws of Masonry.

Witness our hands and seal of the Lodge, this ---- day of -----,  
A. D , 18----, A. L., 58----

-----, *Master.*

-----, *Secretary.*

NOTE.—The petition must be signed by at least seven Master Masons in good standing, in their own hand-writing.

If the locality of the proposed new Lodge is within ten miles of the usual place of meeting of a chartered Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, the special reasons for the application for a Dispensation, in addition to those mentioned in the petition, must be stated. See Article X of Constitution.

The petitioners must be recommended by the chartered Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction nearest the place designated for the meetings of the proposed Lodge. See Article VI of By-Laws of Grand Lodge, Section 1.

If the petitioners are members of Lodges, their dimits must be obtained and forwarded with the petition. If any of them are not members of Lodges, certificates must be furnished.

The Dimits of petitioners for a Dispensation for a new Lodge must accompany the petition.

Ten dollars must accompany the petition, that being the amount required by Section 1, Article VI of By-Laws, for a Dispensation.

Sec. 3 of Article VI of By-Laws, requiring the skill and proficiency of the Master and Wardens, or at least the Master, of the proposed Lodge, should be strictly complied with.

Article X of the Constitution, and Article VI of the By-Laws, relate to the establishment of Lodges, and special attention is directed to them.

## No. 2 —Petition for a Charter.

*To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :*

The subscribers respectfully represent that, on the ---- day of -----, A. D. 18----, A. L. 58----, a Dispensation was issued by the Grand Master for the establishment of a new Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons at -----, in the county of -----, by the name of ----- Lodge, and that said Lodge has worked regularly since that time, as appears from the transcript of its records, by-laws and returns, herewith presented.

They pray that a charter be granted to the said Lodge, with the following officers, to-wit : Brother -----, Master ; Brother -----, Senior Warden ; and Brother -----, Junior Warden ; promising, as heretofore, a strict conformity to the edicts of the Grand Master, and Constitution and laws of the Grand Lodge.

Given under our hands on this, the ----- day of -----, A. D. 18----, A. L. 58----.

(Signatures.)

[The foregoing petition must be signed by at least seven members of the Lodge in their own hand-writing.]

**No. 3 —Petition for Degrees.***To the Master, Wardens and Members of ----- Lodge,**No. ----, A., F. & A. M.:*

The petition of -----, respectfully sheweth that he entertains a favorable opinion of your ancient institution, and desires to be made a member thereof. If this, his petition, be granted, he will yield a cheerful obedience to the usages and customs of Masonry. His age is ----- years; his vocation that of a -----, and his residence, -----.

Date, -----.

(Signature) -----.

Recommended by

-----

-----

**No. 4 —Petition for Membership.***To the Master, Wardens and Brethren of ----- Lodge,**No. ----, A., F. & A. M.:*

The petition of ----- respectfully sheweth that he was lately a member of ----- Lodge, No. ----, at -----; and he now prays to be admitted a member of your Lodge. His age is ----- years; his vocation is that of a -----, and his residence, -----.

(Signed) -----.

Recommended by

-----

-----

NOTE.—A petition for membership must be accompanied by the applicant's dimit.

**No. 5.—Application for a Dimit.***To the Master, Wardens and Brethren of ----- Lodge, No. ----:*

The undersigned respectfully prays to withdraw from the membership of your Lodge, and asks for a certificate to that effect. His motive for this request is -----.

NOTE.—This application must be accompanied by a certificate from the Secretary of the payment of all dues of the applicant.

## No. 6.—Form of Dimit.

*To all Master Masons, to whom these presents shall come—Greeting :*

*This is to Certify*, That Brother ----- is, at the date of these presents, a *Master Mason*, in good and regular standing, and that having paid all dues, and being free from all charges, he is, at his own request, by the vote of the Lodge, *Dismissed from Membership* in ----- Lodge, No. ----, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Lodge, at -----, this ---- day of -----, A. D. 18----, A. L. 58-----.

-----, *Secretary*.

## No. 7.—Petition for Restoration.

*To the Master, Wardens and Members of ----- Lodge, No. ----,*

*A. F. & A. M.:*

The undersigned petitioner respectfully represents that he was ----- by your Lodge on the ---- day of -----, A. D. 18----, A. L. 58----, upon the charge of -----.

He now most respectfully prays to be restored to his former Masonic rights and privileges, and re-admitted to membership in the Lodge, (1) for reasons following (2) -----, and promises, if restored, to strictly comply with the laws and regulations of the Lodge and of the Grand Lodge.

Very respectfully,

A---- B-----.

(1) If the petitioner was a member of a Lodge, other than the one by which he was suspended or expelled, the words "and re-admitted to membership in the Lodge," will be omitted.

(2) The reasons should be clearly stated, and may embrace the expression of reformation, penitence, &c.

The petition must be presented at a regular Communication and lie over one month; when it is to be acted upon the members of the Lodge should be summoned to attend.

It requires a unanimous ballot of members present to restore.

## No. 8.—Certificate for Widow or Orphans of a Deceased Mason.

*To all to whom these presents may come—Greeting :*

*Know Ye*, That -----, whose name is written in the margin, is the ----- of our late beloved brother, ----- who *Departed this Life*, ---- and who was at the time of his death, a member, in full and regular

standing, of ----- Lodge, No. --, of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons; which said Lodge was, at the time of his death, and still is, working under a Charter from the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. We would, therefore, most affectionately commend ----- to the kindest offices of the Masonic Brotherhood everywhere.

Issued the ---- day of -----, A. D. 18 ----, A. L. 58 ----.

-----, *W. M.*

*Attest* : -----, *Secretary*.

### No. 9.—Notice of Suspension or Expulsion.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF ---- LODGE, NO. --, A. F. F. A. M.,  
-----, -----, A. L. 58 ----, A. D. 18 ----.

*To the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina :*

*It is hereby certified that*, at a special communication of ----- Lodge, No. ----, held on the ---- day of -----, A. D. 18 ----, ----- (1) Master Mason, and member of (2) this Lodge, was ----- from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, for (3) -----.

*In testimony whereof*, I hereunto affix my official signature and the seal of the Lodge, on this ---- day of -----, A. D. 18 ----.

-----, *Secretary*.

(1) If the party be not a *Master Mason* erase these words and insert Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, as the case may be.

(2) If the party be non-affiliated erase the word *this* and insert the word *no*.

(3) In this blank the offense should be stated (if propriety admits), so as to conform to the law of the Grand Lodge.

### No. 10.—Notice of Restoration.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF ---- LODGE, NO. --, A. F. F. A. M.,  
-----, -----, A. L. 58 ----, A. D. 18 ----.

*To the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina :*

*It is hereby certified that*, at a (1) ----- communication of ----- Lodge, No. --, held on the ---- day of -----, A. D. 18 ----, Brother -----, a (2) Master Mason, was restored to all the rights and privileges of Masonry and re-admitted to membership in this Lodge.

*In testimony whereof*, I hereunto affix my official signature and the seal of the Lodge, on this ---- day of -----, A. D. 18 ----.

-----, *Secretary*.

(1) Insert regular or special, as the case may be.

(2) If the brother be not a *Master Mason*, insert Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, as the case may be.

## No. 11.—Notice of Restoration—Non-Affiliated Mason.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF ---- LODGE, NO. ----, A. F. A. M.,  
 -----, A. L. 58 ----, A. D. 18 ----.

*To the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina:*

*It is hereby certified,* That, at a (1) ---- communication of ----  
 Lodge, No. ----, held on the ---- day of ----, A. D. 18 ----, the sen-  
 tence of ----, rendered against Brother ----, a non-affiliated Master  
 Mason, on the ---- day of ----, A. D. 18 ----, was removed.

*In testimony whereof,* I hereunto affix my official signature and  
 the seal of the Lodge, on this ---- day of ----, A. D. 18 ----.  
 -----, *Secretary.*

The above certificate applies to non-affiliated Masons only.

(1) Insert regular or special, as the case may be.

## No. 12.—Abstract of Proceedings of Subordinate Lodges in Trials.

*Transcript of the Proceedings of* ---- *Lodge, No. ----,*  
*in the trial of Brother* -----:

At a regular Communication of ---- Lodge, No. ----, held on the  
 ---- day of ----, 18 ----, the following charge and specifications were  
 preferred in writing, over the signature of ---- against Brother ----,  
 a Master Mason: (Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, as the case may  
 be.)

*(An exact copy of the charge and specifications should be inserted.)*

Which were read in open Lodge, and ordered to be recorded in the  
 Minutes.

The Secretary was ordered to furnish the accused with a copy of the  
 charge and specifications, and notify him to appear and answer to the  
 same, at a Special Communication to be held on the ---- day of ----,  
 18 ----.

*(At least ten days' notice must always be given to the accused.)*

A Special Communication of ---- Lodge, No. ----, was held on  
 the ---- day of ----, 18 ----: Present: -----, W. M., -----, S. W.,  
 -----, J. W., &c., and the following members:

*(The names of all officers and members present should be given.)*



The Lodge was opened on the third degree, when the Worshipful Master stated the object of the Communication to be to investigate the charge and specifications preferred against Brother ----- by -----, on the ---- day of -----, 18-----.

It appearing to the Lodge that the accused had been served with a copy of the charge and specifications ten days previous to said meeting, and notified to appear and answer to the same, and he being present, (*If the accused does not appear, although notified, the Lodge may proceed to investigate the charges EX PARTE. In that case the record should state that "The accused not appearing, thereupon the Lodge proceeded to investigate the charges, EX PARTE, &c.,*) and announcing his readiness for trial, the charge and specifications were read in his presence, to which he pleaded "*not guilty.*" Thereupon the Lodge proceeded to investigate the same.

The Worshipful Master conducted the trial on the part of the Lodge (*or appointed brethren, A. B. and C. D., a committee on the part of the Lodge*), and Brother ----- appeared for the accused.

Brother ----- was then examined, who testified as follows :

*Question*—By -----.

*Answer*: -----.

(*The evidence, as taken down, in questions and answers, should be given in full.*)

The testimony of Brother ----- was then read to, and approved by, him, and ordered to be recorded in the Minutes.

(*The evidence of each witness should be reported in full, in the same way.*)

(*If witnesses, who are not Masons, are examined, continue.*)

Mr. -----, a non-Mason, then being offered as a witness by the Master (*or committee on accused*), the Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, and Mr. ----- was introduced and testified on honor, as follows :

(*Report evidence as in other cases.*)

Mr. ----- having retired, the Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Neither party having any further evidence to offer, Brother ----- was heard in defense (*or was heard through his counsel*), after which all who were not members of the Lodge, together with the accused, retired, and the Lodge proceeded to ballot, with the following result :

(*The balloting must be in accordance with the rules adopted by the Grand Lodge for the government of Lodges in trials.*)

Whereupon the Worshipful Master announced that Brother -----, the accused, was (give decision), *suspended or expelled, &c.*

The Lodge having concluded the business for which it was called, was then closed in due form.

-----, *W. M.*

-----, *Secretary.*

I, -----, Secretary of ----- Lodge, No. ----, A., F. and A. M., working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains a full, true and perfect transcript of the proceedings of said Lodge, in the trial of Brother -----, on the ----- day of -----, 18-----.

*In testimony whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed  
[SEAL.] the seal of said Lodge, this ---- day of -----, A. D. 18-----,  
A. L., 58-----.

-----, *Secretary.*

## FORMS OF PRAYER.

---

### Prayer at Opening a Lodge.

Most holy and glorious Lord God, the great Architect of the Universe, the giver of all good gifts and graces : Thou hast promised that, "where two or three are gathered together in thy name, thou wilt be in the midst of them and bless them." In thy name we assemble, most humbly beseeching thee to bless us in all our undertakings, that we may know and serve thee aright, and that all our actions may tend to thy glory, and to our advancement in knowledge and virtue. And we beseech thee, O Lord God, to bless our present assembling, and to illuminate our minds, that we may walk in the light of thy countenance; and when the trials of our probationary state are over, be admitted into THE TEMPLE "not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

*Response by the Brethren.*—So mote it be. Amen.

### Prayer at Closing a Lodge.

Supreme Architect of the Universe, accept our humble praises for the many mercies and blessings which thy bounty has conferred on us, and especially for this friendly and social intercourse. Pardon, we beseech thee, whatever thou hast seen amiss in us since we have been together; and continue to us thy presence, protection, and blessing. Make us sensible of the renewed obligations we are under to love thee supremely, and to be friendly to each other. May all our irregular passions be subdued, and may we daily increase in *Faith, Hope and Charity*; but more especially in that *Charity* which is the bond of peace and perfection of every virtue. May we so practice thy precepts that we may finally obtain thy promises, and find an entrance through the gates into the temple and city of our God.

*Response.*—So mote it be. Amen.

### Benediction at Closing.

May the blessing of Heaven rest upon us and all regular Masons. May brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us.

*Response.*—So mote it be. Amen.

In addition to the prayer, it is sometimes customary to use the following :

**Charge at Closing.**

BRETHREN :

We are now about to quit this sacred retreat of friendship and virtue to mix again with the world. Amidst its concerns and employments, forget not the duties which you have heard so frequently inculcated, and so forcibly recommended, in this Lodge. Be diligent, prudent, temperate, discreet. Remember that, around this altar, you have promised to befriend and relieve every brother who shall need your assistance. You have promised, in the most friendly manner, to remind him of his errors, and aid a reformation. These generous principles are to extend further. Every human being has a claim upon your kind offices. Do good unto all. Recommend it more especially "to the household of the faithful." Finally, brethren, be ye all of one mind; live in peace; and may the God of love and peace delight to dwell with and bless you.

**Prayer at Opening the Grand Lodge.**

Most holy and eternal God, author of life and source of light and love, we have assembled in thy name, and now humbly implore thy presence, protection and favor.

Let thine Infinite wisdom direct us, thy servants, in the labors of this Annual Communication upon which we are now entering, and may the Spirit of Love and Unity come upon, and abide with, us. Let harmony characterize our deliberations, so that they may tend to thy Glory, the welfare of our Order, and our individual good.

Let thy light and truth extend to the dark regions of the earth, and thy Righteousness abound. Let all people receive the benign and enlightening influences of this Institution, and enjoy the blessings which it bestows.

May our brethren everywhere be under thy constant protection, and their labors for good be crowned with lasting and beneficial results.

We invoke thy favor, especially, upon our Order in this Commonwealth. May prosperity attend every lawful effort to promote its objects and extend its usefulness, and may peace and concord pervade the entire brotherhood so that the principles of Masonry may be more thoroughly disseminated and practiced. Accept, we beseech thee, these, our humble supplications, for the honor and glory of thy most holy name. Amen.

*Response.*—So mote it be. Amen.

AN ACT  
TO INCORPORATE THE  
GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

---

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Wardens and Members who are at present, or in future may be of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, be and they are hereby constituted and declared to be a body corporate under the name and title of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, and by such name they shall have perpetual succession and a common seal, and may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, acquire and transfer property, and pass all such By-Laws and Regulations as shall not be inconsistent with the Constitution or Laws of this State or of the United States, anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Read three times and ratified in General Assembly the 20th day of December, Anno Domini, 1797.

BENJAMIN SMITH,  
*Speaker of the Senate.*

M. MATTHEWS,  
*Speaker of the House of Commons.*

A true copy :

J. GLASGOW, *Secretary of State.*



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